	Nos.
Bissell, Rev. Arthur D.	1-19
Bissell, Dwight W.	20-21
Bissell, Miss Emily R.	22-28
Bissell Miss Julia	29-41
Bissell, Rev. Lemuel	42-141.
Bruce, H. G.	142.143.
Bruce, Rev. Henry J.	144-194
Condict Miss Alice B.	195-198
de Regt, Wm C.	199-206
Fairbank, Edward	207-209
Fairbank, Rev. Henry	210-233
Fairbank, Mrs. Ruby E.	234-236
Fairbank, Rev. Samuel B.	237-272
Fairbank, Miss Katie	273-275
Gates, Rev. Lorin S.	276-313
Harding, Rev. Charles.	318-380
Harding, Miss Julia	381-384
Gates, Mrs. Fannie	314-317.

✓

Bissell, Rev. Arthur D.

New Haven, Dec. 28, 1883.

Rec'd Dec. 29.

grieved to hear of the death of Dr. Means.

New Haven, Dec. 28th 1883.

Dear Dr. Clark;

In answer to your questions regarding myself I would say that I have not preached but once this year; that was extempore on four hours notice. The arrangement I had hoped to enter into with Mr. Meserve was not fixed upon, so I am merely organist of the church. The other Sunday I was asked to take charge of a S. school class of boys, very hard to manage and inclined to make fun of me. Keenly sensitive to ridicule as I am, I was reluctant to take the class, but finally consented and had better success than I had hoped. The thought occurred to me, Can I not do some gospel work among some of these

C. D. Tenney

boys Sunday afternoons? and it still stays by me. I have been revolving in my mind just how to go to work and mean to have a talk with Mr. Meserve. —

In the Seminary work I have been paying special attention to the history of the church, and also to biblical studies. —

My engagement with the church lasts until May 1, (1884) and I am laying my plans to be ready to saill soon after that, say about the middle of the month. — The only purpose for which I would care to draw on the outfit fund at present is to buy books. I have a fair start towards a library but feel the need of a considerable addition, especially in the shape of Bible helps. And in this connection I would like to ask a few questions. Can Mr. Hutchins get me ~~good terms for books~~? I can get 25 to 30 o/o discount through the agent here. About what proportion of the allowance is it customary to use in books? or does that depend wholly on the individual? For other articles, clothing, furniture &c., would we be likely to do better in Boston than here? I have made out a list of books with the advice of the professors, and if I can do no better than 25% through Mr. H. I might as well begin to purchase now. It had seemed to me that $150.00 was none too large a proportion for that part of my outfit. As to the rest I will wait until I hear again from you.

I am happy to report that my finances are so prospering this year that within a few weeks I hope to pay up all my indebtedness, which will be like rolling a weight from my shoulders.

Hoping to hear from you again ere long.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur D. Bissell

P. S. I was surprised and not a little

The Davenport church will in the course of a couple of months call a council to ordain me, and I should of course be pleased if you could make it convenient to sit on the council and attend the exercises. The date is not fixed as yet.

Very sincerely yours,

Arthur D. Bissell

19 East Div.

C. D. Pruitt

New Haven. Jan. 3d 1884

Rev N. G. Clark
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Clark:

In yours of the 31st ult (which has come to hand) you state that I had better order books through Mr. Hutchins. Shall I send to him a list of books I want and let him order from the different publishers? or will he give me an order or letter to the publishers? Another thing perhaps he could tell me; some books I shall want which are published in England and Germany. Could Scribner give an order on some English firm, whereby I could get the books there ~~at corresponding~~ rates? If so I suppose it would be better to wait until we come to England before purchasing those. I had myself planned to take out only such standard books as are always useful and necessary to a minister or missionary, reserving special orders for future experience to determine.

You will doubtless hear from Mr. Meserve the result of the conference I had with him. I am at work on a translation in church history, a work valuable to me in a variety of ways; and in my anxiety to finish that I have spent a large proportion of my time on it, and indeed shall be obliged to this term. But I can engage to some extent in the work suggested by Mr. Meserve, i.e. take more active part in neighborhood prayer meetings and inquiry meetings in addition to the regular meetings of the church. No one knows better than I do my own need of just such work, of direct contact with men and women and children.

I have not forgotten what you said in regard to the high school at Ahmednagar. I have in mind a man, a college classmate, enthusiastic in the work of teaching and of a religious turn of mind (having once entered a seminary). He is now in an excellent position and may not be willing to leave it; but I should be overjoyed to have him with me abroad, and will try to write to him shortly, unless you have already come across some one else.

The missionary interest in the seminary seems to be increasing. A society has been organized which meets once a week for conference and prayer on the subject of missions, and missionary meetings are held for the whole seminary once a month or even oftener. As always however Yale looks more to the West than the East.

New Haven. March 4th 1884

Dear Dr. Clark;

You may remember that I said it was uncertain whether we could be ready to go by the middle of May. As things look now however, there is little doubt of our being ready by that time. I notice that the Inman line have steamers advertised for the 17th, 22d and 31st of May; has passage been engaged in one of those for Mr. and Mrs. Hazen? If they expect to sail either on the 17th or 31st, I should be only too glad to take the same boat; but I have heard so much against the "City of Montreal" (which is advertised for the 22d), that I would almost prefer to wait a week, rather than take passage in her. If their passage is engaged for that steamer, I should like to hear from Dr. Haydn to that effect before deciding definitely. — Mr. Hutchins said our things ought to go by the middle of April; when ought we to come to Boston to make purchases there?

Sincerely yours,

Arthur D. Bissell.

Rev. C. D. Russell
New Haven. Recd March 26 '75

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New Haven. March 10th 1884

Rev. N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir;

Your favor of March 6th has come to hand. I think it is best not to engage passage from London, as I am uncertain what course I shall take from there; nor can I decide until I arrive there. I am looking now towards going overland, and in that case we should take steamer again at Naples or Brindisi.

If it will not be too late, I should prefer to wait until after my ordination before going to Boston and making my purchases; say two weeks from today, March 24th Either Miss Gowen or her mother will accompany me, probably; I will let you know certainly a day or two beforehand.

Sincerely yours;

Arthur H. Bissell.

Rev. Arthur D. Bissell.
New Haven, March 10, 1884.
Rec'd March 11.

Please arrange for Mr. and Mrs. Haven, and Miss Swift with the Shearers - have care for a good room &c. - W.G.C.

Done last week. ESW
Mch 11/84

A. D. Bruell

New Haven, March 21/84.

Rev. N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir;

The ordination services came off according to appointment, Wednesday afternoon and evening, and so far as I am concerned left nothing to be desired. I feel one step nearer India now. The next step will be to get our things off, & about this I wished to write you. I said I might be in Boston Monday the 24th, but in the mean time I have been pricing some articles here and am doubtful whether it is necessary to visit Boston. A member of our church is a large dealer in furniture and other goods, and indeed has nearly everything which

offered to sell us things at

le prices, leaving margin enough

for expenses of correspondence. Some of these articles also he can order delivered in Boston at the same price, thus saving freight. Now I enclose a list of articles with his prices, and if it is not too much trouble I would like to have Mr. Hutchins annex his prices, so as to afford a comparison. I somewhat doubt whether we can do enough better to cover fares to Boston and back, and in that case it is much more convenient to make our purchases here, especially as all but a small number will be made directly through this one dealer. We will endeavor to have everything in Boston by April 20th. If that is not early enough, please tell us what is the latest.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Sincerely yours,

Arthur D. Bissell

New Haven, 196.

A. D.

✓

New Haven, March 27th,
1884.

Rev. N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir;

Your kind favor is received. We should have been very glad to avail ourselves of your kind offer, if we had decided to visit Boston to make our purchases. But it seemed on the whole unnecessary, and all but a few articles (of which I will speak to Mr. Hutchins) we shall buy here, thus saving nearly our fares both ways. — If you can let me know about when you expect to hold the farewell meeting, we will make it a point to be present. I hope it will not come before the week of departure.

Very sincerely yours,

Arthur D. Bissell

19

A. D. Birrell

New Haven, April 23d 1884

Dr. N. G. Clark

Dear Sir;

Could you let me know what time of day the "farewell meeting is to be held on the 15th of May? Our time will be so closely taken up that last week that it will make some difference in our plans whether the meeting comes in the early or late part of the day. — I suppose I am to address you in regard to outfit money. Mr. Ward holds a bill against me of \$35.50; now I wanted about \$300.00 from the outfit fund. Instead of my sending the amount of the above bill, it is ~~perhaps~~ just as well for him to deduct that from the \$300.00 & send me the balance.

Rev. Arthur D. Bissell,
New Haven, June 30. /85.

hen I can square my accounts accordingly.

Very truly yours,
A. W. Bissell
19 E. W. H.

New Haven. April 28th
1884

Rev N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir;

Yours of the 24th with check enclosed (for which thanks) arrived while I was out of town. — We plan to be in Boston a short time on Monday P.M. May 12th, but I fear not longer than will be enough to go from one depot to another. We may be there again Wednesday, and if so shall try to call at the Rooms. In any case we shall go in to the meeting Thursday P.M.

Sincerely yours

New Haven. April 28th
1884

Rev N. G. Clark;

Dear Sir;

Yours of the 24th with check enclosed (for which thanks) arrived while I was out of town. — We plan to be in Boston a short time on Monday P.M. May 12th, but I fear not longer than will be enough to go from one depot to another. We may be there again Wednesday, and if so shall try to call at the Rooms. In any case we shall go in to the meeting Thursday P.M.

Sincerely yours

A. D. Bissell

19 E.D.H.

New Haven, June 30th/85

Marathi Mission

New Haven, Apr. 28. 1884.

Rec'd Apr. 29.

Rev. Arthur D. Bissell,
New Haven, June 30. /85,
Rec'd July 2.
a D.

New Haven, Apr. 28. 1884.
Rec'd Apr. 29.

Marathi Mission

New Haven, June 30th 85

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.
Boston;

Dear Dr. Clark;

I have been to New York with my wife & consulted Dr. A. M. Hamilton, highly recommended by Dr. Sanders. The result is on the whole encouraging; he says it is not a serious case & expects speedy recovery or at least improvement. She needs a quiet place either near the sea or up in the hill country where her mind would be diverted, & where she would have fresh air & good nourishing food in abundance. I am writing to Mr. Ely (of W. 26th St. N.Y.), whose country seat is at Lyme in this state, to inquire if he knows of

Branford, Aug. 3. 1885,
Rec'd Aug. 4.

beach where we could board during the months of July & August. If you can suggest anything better I would be glad to hear from you. We must try to get away before the 4th of July so as to avoid the patriotism of New Haven.

Hoping to be advised by you,

I am

Yours sincerely

Arthur D. Bissell

931 Grand St

Branford, Aug. 3. 1885,

Rec'd Aug. 4.

M ✓

Short Beach, Branford.
Aug. 3d 1885.

Rev. N. G. Clark D. D.
Dear Dr. Clark;

I am so deeply impressed by the needs of the Maratha mission, & moreover so much encouraged as to the conditi of my wife's health that I feel constrained to make the following proposition, conditioned on the physicians approval. Let me return some time this fall, say with Dr. Ballantine, & let my wife stay with friends here until it is deemed best for her to follow. She herself offers no objections, & that is one of the best indications to my mind of returning health. The cloud of despondency that was resting on her mind seems to be lifted, & the prospect is that ere the end of summer she will be completely restored. I have written to Dr. A. M. Hamilton (43 E. 33d St.) whom we consulted before & await his reply. Perhaps it will be well for you to communicate with him yourself, & he can state the case fully; or I can forward the substance of his letter to you. I should feel much relieved on many accounts if this plan is deemed feasible. Can you enlighten me as to the probability of my sister's going this year? — Hoping your health is better,

I am

Yours sincerely

A. D. Bissell

(Address) New Haven.

Short Beach, Sep. 11, 1885.

Rec'd Sept. 12.

Short Beach. Sep. 11th 1885

Rev. N. G. Clark D. D.

Dear Dr. Clark;

I have heard from Dr. Ballantine that he expects to sail soon after the October meetings, possibly four weeks from tomorrow. I shall try to be ready by that time & I suppose my sister will communicate with you directly.

Our stay at the shore has turned out far cheaper than it would have at any more frequented resort. After a weeks boarding, I rented a cottage for the season for fifty dollars ($50.00) My wife's mother & sister & my sister Julia have been with us at various times to help us keep house, & our board, not including some stuff sent out by my wife's father, has amounted to less than thirty-five dollars. I enclose account of one hundred dollars ($100.00) which M. Ward handed me the last week in June. I have been preaching several times during the summer, so in the account I have dropped fractions. I shall need some more money to finish up here, which send please to the same address as before (931 Grand St.)

The weather is becoming colder & the shore will soon be deserted; we shall scarcely stay more than a week longer ourselves. – Hoping to see you at the October meetings,

Yours very truly,

A. D. Bissell.

Account of

A. D. Bissell with A. B. C. F. M.

Cr. To rent of cottage	$35.00
Provisions (board)	34.00
Clothing	13.00
Books & stationery	8.00
Sundries	10.00
	$100.00

Dr. Cash from Mr. Ward $100.00

N.C.

Short Beach. Sep. 17th/885.

Rev. N. G. Clark D. D.

Dear Dr. Clark;

I think that one hundred dollars ($100.00) will cover all necessary expenses connected with breaking up here & preparing to leave the country.

Yours sincerely,

A. D. Bissell.

931 Grand St.

New Haven.

A. D. Bissell

Short Beach. Sep. 23d
1885

Rev. N. G. Clark D. D.
Boston.

Dear Dr. Clarke;

Your favor of 21st inst. with enclosed ckeck for $100.00 was received yesterday, for which please accept my thanks. My wife is nearly as will now as she ever was; the only indication of past disease is a slight bodily weakness. She can however do a considerable amount of work without feeling over-weary; I therefore feel it quite safe to leave her with her parents where she will have only such work as she can easily do, with some good suitable reading, & very little if any studying. She has attended no religious services as yet except some services of song, & she speaks of wishing to hear preaching & worship God with his people. I feel sure that her mind is at peace again, & with care exercised at present, her troubles will never return. As to her following me next year, my preference is that she should either start late in winter, say the first or second week of Feb, so as to arrive in time to be at Mahableshwar before encountering the heat of the plains, or, that she should wait a whole year & sail so as to arrive (as we now shall) in the cold season. I dread the repetition of the voyage down the Red Sea in summer. But these things cannot now be arranged I suppose. Mr. Fairbank's plans I have not learned. ———

I heard from my sister yesterday that she is making preparations to come East about the first of October, & will expect to sail with Dr. Ballantine. So when passage is secured for him & his wife, please include also my sister & myself. ———

My sister's address will be Milan, Erie Co. Ohio, care Mrs. L. B. Gaston, until about the 3d of October, so she writes me.

Yours very truly
A. D. Bissell
931 Grand St.
New Haven.

tte if any learned. ———

Care of Mrs. A. D. Bissell

152 Temple Street
New Haven.

Nov. 2. '85

My Dear Sir—

I desire to bring to your notice and kind consideration, the case of Mrs. A. D. Bissell — who has been, & now is under my care. The present state of the case is such, that I have advised her removal to some Institution for treatment, — preferably, "the Retreat" at Hartford. I think her recovery may be much more speedily brought about, if under the care and

ed, & asked to be charged likewise.
e advise me in this matter.
hall endeavor to keep myself

attentions to be obtained only in that, or some similar Institution.

I am, Very Truly Yours,
William D. Anderson.

To
Ezra Farnsworth Esq.
Boston.

New Haven, Nov. 5th '85.

Rev. N. G. Clark,
Boston;

Dear Dr. Clark;

Your favor of yesterday came to hand this P.M. on my return from Hartford, where I had taken my wife this morning. The Superintendent of the Retreat, Dr. Stearns, informed me that in consideration of her bing a missionary, no charges would be made for the present. I was much pleased with everything I saw, and found all in charge kind & helpful.

On Sat. Oct. 17th I drew the sum of forty dollars ($40.00) from Mr. Ward, which was to be charged to my account with the Maratha Mission. Subsequently Mr. Ward wrote requesting me to return the amount, which I was unable to do. There are also some books in care of Mr. Hutchins, which I had ordered, & asked to be charged likewise. Please advise me in this matter. I shall endeavor to keep myself busy now that the care of my wife does not occupy me.

Thanking you & the Committee for sympathy expressed & help kindly proffered,

I am
Yours faithfully
Arthur D. Bissell
931 Grand St.

New Haven, Nov. 5, 1885.

Rec'd Nov. 6.

New Haven, Nov. 16th

New Haven, Nov. 16th '85

Rev. N. G. Clark
Boston.

Dear Dr. Clark;

Owing to my absence from the city for a week, I have just read your favor of the 9th, with enclosed draft for one hundred dollars ($100.00). For both please accept my thanks. I acknowledged the other letter from Woodbury, Conn. last week. — I have visited Mrs. Bissell, but her stay at the retreat has been too short to effect any perceptible change. Still I feel she is better there than elsewhere.

Faithfully yours,
A. D. Bissell

C. D. Birrell

Newhaven, Nov. 5, 1885.

Rec'd Nov. 6.

Woodbury, Conn. Nov.
1885.

Rev. N. G. Clark,
Boston.

Dear Dr. Clark;

I wish to thank you heartily for your letter and for the kindly feeling that is behind it. I have but one remark to offer, and with that shall consider the matter closed for the present. When I offered my services to the Board, my conviction of duty was clear and imperative; and since that time nothing has dimmed or weakened that conviction. Plainly, then, so long as the way is open,

Rev. A. D. Bissell

New Haven Mar. 19. 1886

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my only course is to obey without hesitation. In the present state of uncertainty, owing to my wife's health, I can only hold myself ready and wait for further developments. Meanwhile

Believe me

Yours faithfully

A. D. Bissell.

931 Grand St.
New Haven.

New Haven. April 30th/86

Rev. N. G. Clark;
Boston;

Dear Dr. Clark;

I had been informed that you expected to stay in Mexico much longer, & it was a genuine surprise to me when Mr. Gower showed me your letter in answer to his last week. I had it in mind to write informing the Committee of my intentions, but had not thought of asking a grant nor was I aware that a formal release was necessary under the circumstances. My father showed me yours of yesterday, in which the offer of help is kindly made. I had made a temporary arrangement with a friend here for New York, the check would better be made out payable to M. M. Gower, who will attend to matters here. I shall be happy to regard this as a loan, to be repaid at my earliest convenience.

As you suggested, I hereby request the Committee to grant me a formal release from the Board.

Thanking you personally for your unabated kindness to me from the beginning,

I remain

Sincerely yours,

Arthur D. Bissell.

P. S. About May 29th I hope to receive letters in San Francisco, address C/o J. D. Spreckels & Co.

my only course is to obey
without hesitation. As the present

Rev. A. D. Bissell

New Haven. Mar. 19. 1886

Recd March 22.

Rev. N. G. Clark,
Boston;

Dear Dr. Clark;

Your kind note was received this morning. I am happy to report that Mrs. Bissell has improved very decidedly since the beginning of this year, and the physicians speak very encouragingly of her recovery, & I am in hopes it will not be long before she will be allowed to leave the retreat. In any case however it will be necessary for her to take a long rest after coming away from there before she can undertake any serious work. In the meantime I hope to find some constant employ-yet I have found nothing, & have been studying more or less steadily with either kind of work in view; but all is uncertainty. — I have not been obliged to draw very heavily on the am't sent last fall, & hence am in no immediate want of further assistance; circumstances may, however, make it convenient to have a slight further appropriation, & if you so desire I will then inform you.

Yours faithfully,
A. D. Bissell

Bissell Dwight N.

A

[illegible]

D. W. Bissell

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Nov. ~~17~~ 4 on

New Haven, Feb. 11th '87,

pd ck to Mch 9/87

Dear Sir:

I do not know if such a thing is permissable or not, but if it is, could I draw out $20.00 or $25.00 of my next allowance from the A. B. C. F. M., i.e. if I will have any next year? My circumstances are a little straitened just at present, so that some money would help me very much.

20

Yours Respectfully
Dwight W. Bissell
29 South College
New Haven, Conn

Mr. Dwight Phill

New Haven Feb 18, '87

My dear Mr. Clark:

I rec'd your answer, and have waited so long only because I was at a loss to know how to answer the question as to who is my guardian. Till last year my brother Arthur made applications, and last year my father was in this country, and *he* did it for me, but now there is no one in New Haven on whom I look as my guardian.

I have two older brothers out in Michigan, either one of whom would be willing probably to act in that capacity. I was nineteen years old on the fourth of last November. I think my last grant extended up to May of this year. I was not positive whether my grant would keep on after this year or not, but I thought at least that I would write and enquire, as unexpected expenses had come up lately. I think have answered all your questions. Thanking you for your kind wishes

Yours Sincerely
Dwight W. Bissell

Bissell Miss Emily R.

my passage out — as companion for a semi-invalid — I do not know enough to be a nurse for a really sick person — lady, or lady's waiting maid, or in some such position, if I only knew where to look for it. It would be easier to find such a position from here to England, however, than from England to India. I could earn enough to pay my way, by continuing in my present work, but not much within a year, and I can't bear to wait so long.

I know how busy you are, and do not ~~so~~ like so to take any of your time; but if you should know or hear of any way in which it will be possible for me to go to India, I will thank you with all my heart if you will write me of it, even so briefly.

Sincerely and hopefully yours,
Emily Bissell.
Care Miss Anne Sewell
Stoughton
Wisconsin.

better wait the year
& pay her own way
become confirmed in
health

2c

Fond du Lac. Wisconsin.
May. 31st. 1885.

Rev. N. G. Clark:

Recd June 4

Dear Friend;

My Father wrote me, a few weeks ago, that you had asked him if I had the strength to go to India and work, in Ahmednagar, in connection with the Girls' School; and he had replied that I was under the care of a doctor, who had ordered a season of rest. Well, the season of rest is over, and I am glad to be able to work again. I am not yet quite a "giantess" in strength, but much better than last fall, thanks to my good doctor and the kind, kind friends in Rockford (Ills.), where I spent most of the winter.

Dr. Clark, may I write very frankly to you? As I would to my own father? I want very much to return to India, but not as a missionary, or even as a teacher. You know, of course, of the severe illness of Nelly Bissell, my brother Arthur's wife, and that it has resulted in their return to this country. Father and Mother are alone, again, and doubly lonely.

Dr. Clark, I must go to them, if it is a possible thing. I am the only one of the eight, who is at liberty to go. But I do not want to go in the capacity of a missionary; I simply want to be with my Father and Mother — who need me — and to help them all I can, both as their daughter, at home, and in their work. I hope to do more or less real missionary work, as I want to, but my chief desire and aim in going, is to be with them. This end would be accomplished if I were a missionary, to a certain extent — as far as my presence was concerned.

But I am not fitted to be a missionary or teacher in Ahmednagar. I do not say this out of mere humility. I never taught; I never had much responsibility; everything has been done

Salem, Me., June 28/83.
Rec'd July 2.

for me all my life; I never had to plan out and work out things for and by myself; I never was *leader* in any movement. Others have led, I have followed; others have planned, I have *helped* in carrying out their plans.

I should have to do all the above, as a missionary; it would be good discipline, doubtless, but discipline that should have been received in this country, *preparatory* to work on mission fields. Not having received this training, I shrink unspeakably from the responsibility I could but feel did I go as a missionary — from the undertaking to *begin* such untried work in places and positions where experience in such work is so needful.

Of course I could not — I *do* not expect — the Board to send me out, unless as a missionary. I have written you, because you are a friend of my Father, and could understand my desire to go to him; and because you *may* know of some way in which I can go, or be able to learn of some way. I would gladly *work*

West Salem, Wis., June 28. /85,

Rec'd July 2.

✓

West Salem. Wisconsin.
June 28th. 1885.

Dr. N. G. Clark:
Dear Friend;

Your kind letter was duly received. I do thank you for it very much. I am so glad you think it probable that the Board will send me to my Father, if he should desire it, and my health be such as to warrant my going. During the past winter, I was under the care of a physician in Chicago, Dr. W. H. Burt (112 Dearborn Street); before writing you, I asked his opinion with regard to my plan to return to India, and he replied as follows: "I do not think your work in India will be any harder than your work here. The climate is a little more debilitating, but by being careful you can mitigate that in a great measure. Try it awhile, if you think you can do more good there than here. If you get sick, come home, and we will get you all right again."

Not an especially vigorous endorsement of the plan, is it? He tells me that constitutionally I am not _very_ strong, and never shall be; but aside from that, I am _well_ enough. I write this "with fear and trembling," for I know how strict the Board is, of necessity, in this matter. But are there not cases in which some who, tho' apparently well and strong, do not stand the climate as well as expected, while others endure it comparatively well, concerning whom fears are expressed to the contrary? And is not this fact in my favor, that I was born there, and lived in the country thirteen years of my girlhood?

A little over two weeks ago, in Kilbourn City, this State, I met Mr. and Mrs. Sibley, missionaries (not under our Board,) from Ellichpur, Northern India. They hope to return to their work in September. I have been wishing I could go with them, but I fear the matter cannot be decided so quickly. I wrote to Father directly, after hearing from you — June 15th. It may be necessary to have further correspondence with him, after hearing from him in August; in that case I must wait three months longer.

I shall not continue in my present work, after July 5th, with any regularity. Rockford (Illinois) is my church home; I expect to spend a part of the summer there, with kind Mrs. W. A. Talcott, who opened her home to me last winter. If you should wish to write me again, after July 6th, direct to her care, at Rockford, until August 2nd.

Again thanking you for your prompt and very kind responce to my letter of inquiry,

I remain sincerely, gratefully, yours,

Emily Bissell.

good there than here. If you get sick, come home, and we will get you all right again."

Not an especially vigorous endorsement of the plan, is it? He tells me that constitutio

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Rockford. Sept. 8th. 1885.

Rev. N. G. Clark;

Dear Friend;

Last night I received a letter from Father and Mother, speaking of my plan to go to be with them, favorably rather than otherwise. Father writes: "No doubt you could be of use to us, and greatly helpful to your Mother in her work when the language comes back to you..... ... I could fill the page ennumerating different kinds of work that need more attention, and which you could do as far as your strength would allow." "Perhaps your being here to help and cheer us may prolong our term of labor for a few years."

Mother has written of the _shady side_ of life in Ahmednagar, and that has made me think more seriously than before; but I am ready to go; I want to go, as much as before. I cannot _promise_ to stay _after_ their work is done, there, but

I hope that when the times comes, courage and resolution to do so will be given me.

Father writes also: "I do not know how much the Board allow for outfit when one is coming out this way." Is any allowance made? I had hardly expected it. If any, may I know how much?

Will you please tell me when Dr. and Mrs. Ballentine expect to sail? I have not heard.

Father says he has written you; he has doubtless said all that is necessary. I need, then, only to express my willingness and desire to go, in October, if the Prudential Committee think it best.

Anxiously awaiting your reply,

Sincerely yours,

Emily Bissell.

408 North Main St.
Rockford. Ills.

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408 North Main St.
Rockford. Ills.

Rockford, Sept. 8, 1885

Rec'd Sept 11.

Rockford. Sept. 21st 1885.

Dr. N. G. Clark;

Dear Friend;

Your kind letter was received in due time; many thanks for it. I hardly know what to say in reply to your inquiry as to whether I shall need any more money than I already have. I leave Rockford this morning with eighty dollars ($80) in my purse. That will more than pay all expenses before until I reach Boston, Oct. 6th. I don't know how far it will go towards an outfit. I intend not to make ~~any~~ many purchases; i.e. in the way of an outfit. Shall have to buy two trunks; and ought to have some dress-making done in Auburndale; but shall need very little besides this.

During this week, letters may be ad-to me at Armada, Mich., C/o Rev. H. N. Bissell. After this week, until Oct. 2nd, at Milan, Erie Co., Ohio, C/o Miss K. A. Bissell; and then to Auburndale, in Mrs. Walker's care. I write this in case you should wish to write any directions to me.

Gratefully yours,
Emily Bissell.

New York, Oct 26, '85.

Rec'd Oct 28.

244 West 22nd St.
New York. Oct. 26. '85.

Rev. N. G. Clark:

Dear Friend;

I was not able to sail on the "Etruria", Oct. 24th, with Dr. and Mrs. Ballantine. An accident on the ~~te~~ road so delayed the train on which I came, that one of my trunks did not arrive in time to sail; and as it contained all I had set apart as most necessary during the voyage, I could not go without it. Today I have been to the office of the Cunard Line, and the ticket was transferred to the "Servia", which sails on Saturday, the 31st.

Dr. and Mrs. Ballantine have promised to wait for me in England.

I have written, because I tho't you would like to know how matters stand.

Very sincerely yours,
Emily Bissell.

Address,
Bible House. N. Y.

To—

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.
Sec. A.B.C.F.M. {Ahmednagar. July. 28/88.

My dear Dr. Clark:—

I want very much to write you of a matter which has long been uppermost in my mind. It is, of course, connected with our Girls' School in Ahmednagar. Since there are already two High Schools in our Mission — one here, one in Bombay — it has seemed undesirable to start a third in connection with our school. It was also thought, by certain members of the Mission, that those parents who wished their ~~p~~daughters to enter the High-School course, should consent to support them entirely, while they should be studying. Being comparatively new in the work, my sister and I yielded the point, and allowed three girls to go to Bombay, a year ago, after they had completed the course in our school, without making any special effort to retain them. They have done well in Bombay, and so far we see no reason for regretting their having gone there. Their parents do not support them entirely, however; funds have been obtained from charitable friends of the school. As a matter of fact, the parents of neither of the girls are *able* to pay the five rupees a month required of students in the Boarding School in Bombay. I can count on the fingers of one hand those of our native agents, or pastors of churches, who could pay that sum per month even for *one* child, let alone two or three, who may all be studying at the same time. The majority of native workers could hardly pay even the three rupees a month necessary to support them here, in our school. There are comparatively few girls whom it is desirable to educate further than our school carries them; but it seems to me desirable that those few be *encouraged* to pursue their studies further, rather than *discouraged*, by impossible prices for board and tuition. It seems to me that we should make it easy for them to study the higher standards, as far as it is possible to do so. It is often urged that the Mission is already doing almost too much for the native Christians, supporting, or more than half supporting, their daughters in school for at least five or six years, and charging only a nominal fee for tuition; that the more we do for them, the more dependent do we make them. This is true enough; but while the salaries paid to native agents are so small, I see no other course open. They have more than they would have had as Hindus, to be sure, far more; but very little more than enough to enable them to live as becomes *Christian* men and women. They are allowed one rupee a month for each child, and that is paid back every month towards the support of the child as soon as he or she begins to attend Mission Schools.

There is one objection urged against the higher education of the daughters of our native Christians, which seems really valid to me; — and only one. It is, that if so much money be spent in educating these half-a-dozen or a dozen girls up to the fifth or sixth English standards, less can be used in ~~extracting~~ village school work; it is better to educate a great many in the Vernacular Standards, and disregard the chosen few; than to give the chosen few an English education, and disregard the hundreds who might be reached through village schools.

There are three girls now in our school, as there were three a year ago, ready to enter the Fourth Anglo-Vernacular Standard (our school stops at the Third Anglo-Vernacular Standard, after completing which students are prepared to enter the High School course). The question is, shall we say to them: "We can do no more for you; go, and pursue your studies where you can"; or whether we shall ask for the funds to enable us to employ such a teacher, or such teachers, as shall be needed to carry them on through the first two years of the High School course; or, if need be, through to Matriculation. Of course this would involve greater expense in many directions; more recitation rooms would be needed, as a first requisite.

Although I would like much to start a High School in connection with our school, still I would rather favor the plan of sending our girls to Bombay, after completing the course here, were it not for two objections: viz. the expense, and the climate. Doctors say that Bombay is no place for Deccan people to go to for purposes of study. I am quite sure that a majority of the missionaries will approve of the enlargement of our school, owing to the above two reasons. My Father and Mother do not favor the plan, fearing it will interfere with village work; and if I could _know_ that village school work will suffer, if more money be spent on this school, or _because_ more is spent here, I could be content to let the school remain as it is. The village work is already suffering from want of funds. School work could often be carried on much more effectively if some small inducement could be offered to pupils to _regular_ attendance. The village people are so wretchedly poor, that they cannot resist the temptation to keep their boy or girl at home, if by so doing a few pice can be earned; and it is hard to blame them. _Must_ village schools suffer, if the central schools are allowed to grow? Is it quite impossible that _both_ kinds of work be enlarged? I shall await anxiously some communication from you to guide us in this phase of our work. Oh, if people at home only _could_ realize our needs, and our dependence on them to carry _forward_ our Master's work!

Very sincerely yours,
Emily R. Bissell.

Miss Emily R. Bissell
Ahmednagar. July 28-1888
Rec'd Aug. 27

To-

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M. Boston.
My dear Dr. Clark:—

Your favor of August 1st was received some two weeks ago or more. I should have responded more promptly had I not already written of much concerning which you ask information. Also, I felt that my Mother was far more competent to write such information as you ask regarding the ability of the school to furnish teachers.

In respect to Government Standards, the school stands where it did when Miss Hume and I took it in charge, except that now the number of pupils ready to pass to higher standards is greater. No *pains* have been spared. The Government Inspector, the other day, remarked a considerable improvement in the pupils as compared with the results of the examination held two years ago. But *pains* cannot pay for the more competent teachers necessary in order to introduce advanced standards; nor can *pains* put up new recitation rooms. O Dr. Clark, only those who have had experience in it know how much private money is put into this school by those who have it in charge. It is absolutely necessary in order to carry on

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The spiritual state of the girls has not been just what I could wish it to be, this term. I am at a loss how to account for it otherwise than to say that there must be some lack in myself. I know that there is. I am praying our Father to help me to see it more clearly, and to teach me how to overcome it. The sense of responsibility weighs on me. I seem to myself only to be beginning to realize what responsibility means. The spiritual welfare of 130 souls! It is an awful responsibility, and I tremble lest I be missing it. I am very thankful that my sister has come back to the work of this school.

Hoping that the answer to my former letter is already on its way:

Very sincerely yours,

Emily R. Bissell.

Ahmednagar — Oct. 2 '98
Recd

Bissell, Miss Julia

Wellesley, Nov. 17. 1884.

Rec'd " 18.

Wellesley College.
Nov. 17th 1884

Rev. N. G. Clark. D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Clark:—

In behalf of the christian Association, founded recently at Wellesley College, ~~at~~ and which has asked me to make provision for its monthly missionary concerts, this year, I write to ask if certain ones who are home from the field, just now, can come and talk to us, on Sunday evening, December 7th. We were sorry to learn that the work of the West Central African mission had been temporarily hindered: but, on seeing that Messrs Stover and Hay had come to this country, we wished, at once that we might have the pleasure of hearing one of them, at our next missionary concert, December 7th, as I said before. Not knowing just where to reach them by mail, I have written to the Rooms, thinking that through your kindness I might learn whether we may look for either Mr. Stover, or Mr. Hay. We have happened to have few here to address us on Africa, and I hope we may not be disappointed in this case. We shall ~~be~~ glad to have either one who can make his plans to be here, come out Saturday evening, the 6th Dec. and ~~con~~ stay over the Sabbath.

I very much want the girls

of Wellesley College to be well educated on the subject of missions as well as on any other subject.

Hoping not to inconvenience or trouble you, by asking this ~~tt~~ favor,

very sincerely

Julia Bissell -

Ahmednagar.
June 6th 1887.

Rev. N. G. Clark. D. D., Cor. Sec'y. A. B. C. F. M.
Boston, Massachusetts.

My dear Dr. Clark:—

Many thanks for your letter of Feb. 15th which came to me at the hills, whither, acting on the advice of friends, and because it was my first year in this climate, I had gone earlier than other members of the family thought they needed to go. It was not that I needed rest so much, but that my head refused to take kindly to the heat, and those who were wiser than I thought it best that I should escape as much of the heat as possible.

The stay at the hills was a delight and a help. "As the mountains are round about Jerusalem" means far more to me now. The Lord had it in His purpose, I know, to teach me many lessons from the hills of Mahableshwar. It was an inspiration, too, to meet the members of the Mission—to receive their cordial words of welcome—to speak with them of our common work,—to catch some of their earnest spirit, and sit as learner at the feet of their experience. "The youngest of the Mission" they liked to call me, and I could but feel there was more truth than humor in the words. I felt very much like a child - tho' a happy child - that could scarce walk alone. Yet their words were reassuring, their experience helpful, and their enthusiasm infectious.

The Preliminary examination was conducted by Mr. Harding and Mr. Bruce in a most kind spirit, and with better results than I had dared to hope. For I had had not quite two months of study with my Marathi teachers, before leaving Nagar, and had feared lest those months with what studying I had done by myself at the hills should not prove enough. It is pleasant, in view of the work of the Girls' School, which is likely to come over to my sister and myself by the first of July, to feel that this examination was satisfactory to the Mission.

It has been my regret, during the past months, that I could not do more positive work. The hours with the Pundit, the Sunday School class, the hours spent in singing with the school girls, and a little work with the women this has seemed very little in the midst of so much that needed to be done. The school work will, however, prove enough, probably, for my hands and heart. For the sake of the school, it is a matter of regret to us all that Miss Hume feels constrained to leave it, after the very efficient way in which she has carried it on. It will be a real loss to the school, and Miss Hume's place will be a difficult one to fill.

It has been ~~my~~ a pleasure, lately, to be able to relieve my father of some of his copying, as Secretary: I hope to be able to ~~do~~ more or less of this, always, throughout my three years' stay here.

This report does not amount to very much, in itself, but its conclusion may mean more — and that is this: India is a grand place to work in: there are great forces at work everywhere on this people, and it is a good thing to feel that one's own efforts, weak and imperfect as they are, are allied with influences that shall prove the salvation of the people of Hindustan. Say that for me, Dr. Clark, to any young lady who wants to know about India, and wants to feel sure that she will find no occasion to regret the decision to spend her life in working for India.

Remember me please most kindly to the ladies of the Woman's Board. I am more and more convinced that they will not soon find another such as my mother.

Always most cordially yours—
Julia Bissell.

Ahmednagar, June 6, '87.
Rec'd July 11.

Ahmednagar.
Nov. 16th 1887.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.
Sec'y A. B. C. F. M.
Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Clark —

Let me acknowledge your favor of July 15th which should have been acknowledged much sooner, were it not for the illness incident to the process of acclimation, which made it necessary for me to spend over a month of the season in Bombay, and keep as far away from anything fatiguing as possible. But the Doctors could not forbid me from using that month for thinking and planning very busily, about the new work in connection with the school which had come into my hands. It was as if the Lord let me see something of what the work was, during the months of June and July, and showed me how unfit I was to do it, and then sent me away for a long season of thought and preparation for it.

Today the School opens, with one hundred thirty names on the roll, and a fine corps of teachers to lead the classes, this year. The lower rooms are not so full as the higher, for it is our plan to admit into our boarding department less of the younger scholars from the districts, where there are already schools established by the Mission, demanding instead a certain amount of preparation from them, thus throwing a greater responsibility on district teachers. If this plan is pursued persistently, there will soon be in our Mission a system of preparatory schools feeding this larger and central institution. ~~And~~ this in time must raise the character and standard of this school.

The work of this girls' school is of intense interest — an interest that deepens, as the possibilities of the work for the future open up to one. But I hope another lady will be coming out, before long, in a year or so, to take my place here, when I go home for the medical course. In a little over two years I hope to return for that course of study, and a lady who is an utter stranger to the climate should have a year at least to become inured to the climate and learn the language. The medical course is not given up yet, and as long as I am here in Ahmednagar and see the very great need of a resident Missionary physician here, I cannot give it up. The large number of students in our different schools, the growing Christian community and the many openings in the city that would be made at once by such a physician, all go to make my resolve of returning in three years more firm, as the weeks go by, and not less. We have been most fortunate in having Dr. Ballantine in the city, a large part of this year, but Rahuri will claim him soon, and then even in what the city will do remains to be seen.

One more item — about the grant that was voted for the reservoir for the girls. After talking over the matter often and carefully with those who seemed wisest on the subject, it was decided not to have the water brought to the girls' yard. This was not my personal preference, but I felt too inexperienced to offer an opinion contrary to this. The Mission therefore voted the grant, at our suggestion — seeing the former plan was abandoned — for new recitation room to be added to the present building. The upper room is much crowded and two recitations are going on in it the greater part of the time, much to the inconvenience of both class and teacher, and recitations also must often be conducted on the piazza, as well. The grant referred to above will meet the expenses of this new recitation room, and I trust the Prudential Committee will see their way to approve the the vote of the Mission. My sister and I both feel, very strongly, that in order to secure the best results from this study, to the students, the classes must be accommodated better, if possible.

Hoping that you will be able to secure the services of another Wellesley girl for this girls' school when I leave — and with many and most cordial remembrances to those at the Rooms from my sister and myself —

Believe me always most truly yours
Julia Bissell.

Miss Julia Bissell,
Ahmednagar, Nov. 16, 1887.
Rec'd Dec. 19.

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Ahmednagar. India
Feb. 23rd 1888.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Sec'y A. B. C. F. M, Boston, Mass.
My dear Dr. Clark —

Yours of Dec. 17th and 23rd are at hand — I need not add, "and were very welcome," for your letters are always welcome in our home. Thank you for your kind interest in this one of your Missionary girls, and your sympathy with her, in her as yet rather immature efforts to help India. She finds herself very much of a child, as yet, and realizes, more and more, that she has still many a mistake to make and deplore, before she can be wise for her tasks. At present, an earnest heart and willing hands and brain, constitute her preparation for the work before her. — The thought that upon my sister and myself, devolves, to a large extent, the training of our native Christian women, the work of fitting them to exert a great influence, and a thoroughly desirable influence, upon the native Christianity community — this thought alone brings with it a burden nearly overwhelming. Strong, hopeful Christian women, we want them to be, with higher ideals of life — such women they must be, if they would help their heathen sisters. But how to bring them up to that high standard of Christian living!

We are feeling very strongly on this point just now, because a young woman who left school only a year or two ago, has been on the point, lately, of yielding to a terrible temptation, which could mean only her ruin. For some months past she had taught successfully in a Government school for low-caste girls, in this city. It is no easy matter to find outside of our Christian community a low-caste woman who can teach even the primary classes, and Government applied to us to supply a teacher. Under this girl, the scholars were making good progress, and she seemed to feel a real enthusiasm for the work, when suddenly her mother took her away from the school to a distant outstation, and it was weeks before we heard from them.

be able to return for the medical course in 1890. Till then I am glad to join

When they returned, however, and we learned the circumstances, we were glad the mother had acted so promptly. A native head-master, in charge of that school, who visits it daily, had been using his influence on this girl, and so skillfully as finally to persuade her to marry him. He knew well that it could not be a legal marriage, for letting alone the fact that his own private life, past and present, resembles most that of the woman of Samaria, — as marriages between Hindus and Christians are not legal. However he succeeded so far in deceiving her as to make arrangements for meeting at a certain place, when her mother discovered the plan. After pleading with the girl, and showing her the sin of renouncing her Christianity, and pointing out that the matter would result in her own ruin, — after contriving several means of diverting her mind by healthful occupations, we and her friends together succeeded in freeing her, to a certain extent, from this influence and getting her to consent to marry a young Brahman, a Christian, and teacher in a one of our village schools, to whom she had previously been engaged. After some delay the wedding finally took place, and now we are hoping and praying; that the influence of her husband, a humble, earnest man, and of her new surroundings, may do much for her. — This simply shows how weak — pitiably weak, even those of our Christian girls and women who have had the best care and training, are, in an hour of temptation. For this is no isolated case, it is only one of many, in which we have, as it were, to save these people *in spite of themselves*. In view of such facts, it seems as if we ought to make each day spent with them *tell* upon their characters. —

Perhaps you will wonder why, when this work for Christian girls presents itself as one of such interest and importance, I still keep to the purpose of studying medicine. It is because Christian girls and women many can reach — they are not difficult of access, nor slow to come to us. But the great mass of women near, we do not and cannot touch. A regular physician they would listen to, they would gladly see, and of that kind of work there is a *great* need here. It may help to make this statement stronger, if I add that my mother *hopes earnestly* that I may

heart, soul and body for this school. With affectionate regards to all yours sincerely
Julia Bissell.

Miss Julia Bissell
Ahmednagar, Feb. 23-1888
Rec'd March 26

Mahableshwar.
May 10th 1888.

To—
Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Sec'y A. B. C. F. M., Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Clark—

When the Minutes of this Mission meeting reach Boston, you will find, among other Resolutions recorded therein, one respecting a new dormitory for the Ahmednagar Girls' School. The Mission has voted to ask a special grant for this purpose, to be obtained through the Woman's Board, as the grant last year also came from them. A letter goes to Miss Child, by this same mail, informing her of the vote of the Mission. In view of the fact that special funds were granted only a year ago for a similar purpose, it may seem that the necessity for this building cannot be so very pressing. But that we look upon it as an immediate necessity will be proven by the fact that we do not intend to allow the school-girls to occupy the old dormitory during this coming rainy season. The house is unsafe & the risk to health and life is too great, — and the future usefulness of our girls as strong, christian women is too dear to us. We cannot put them into buildings that afford such inadequate shelter from the rains. We tried having them occupy this dormitory last rainy season, and were abundantly satisfied that it was a mistake to do it then. — To repair this present building would cost but little less than to put up the new one — and the result would be far less satisfactory. The number of pupils to be accommodated will be greater, probably, this year, than heretofore, hence greater accommodations must be secured, at once. A special grant is apparently the surest and quickest way of obtaining the funds required, and delay in this matter would be disastrous to the interests of the school. I trust the necessary amount — $270.00 — will be granted us.

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It was a disappointment that the Appletons should refuse so reasonable a request. Are there any friends of the Board who would be glad to make donations of Cowles' Commentaries, the entire set, or single volumes, or of any similar works which would be useful to pastors and Sunday School superintendents, and the educated young men in our districts, in their study of the Bible? Works on the Bible in the vernacular are as yet very few, and the value of such in English, to those who understand that language, cannot be over-estimated. It must still be many years before a vigorous Biblical literature will be in circulation among our Christians. For aside from the fact that the leisure to translate such works will be slow in coming into our busy days, is the inability of the Tract Society and the Christian Vernacular Education Society, to print such works, because of the lack of funds. I have noticed, through the pages of the Missionary Herald, that valuable books had been donated, recently, for use in Japan. There is a Bible Dictionary in Marathi, Mr. Bruce's work-but little else in that line for native Christians. I think the Mission would welcome such works.

A letter has just come from Dr. Fairbank, saying that Mr. Orris considering the question of coming to India, and is inclined to look upon the call as providential. We hope to hear that he has decided in the affirmative. And in the meantime I need your very earnest prayers that the Holy Spirit Himself will give me the words to say to those Hindu boys, in teaching them these next few months. We shall feel the loss of Mr. de Regt more and not less, as the days go on. —

Thanking you for your kind letters —

Yours most sincerely —

Julia Bissell.

Mahableshwar May 10 - 1888

Rec'd June 11 - 88

Ahmednagar.
June 25th 1888.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.
Sec'y A. B. C. F. M., Boston, Mass.
My dear Dr. Clark —

Your favor of the thirteenth of April, received at Panchgani, has waited longer for an answer than so welcome a letter should ever be allowed to wait. Thank you for your kind words about my letters. It is a new cause for gratitude, that the Master has accepted the consecration of my pen, and can find work for even that poor instrument to do, somewhere in His kingdom.

The Nagar forces are at their posts again, for another campaign, though under different, sadly different aspects. We feel very much the loss of the hero whom the Master called from our midst to higher service, last April, and whose place, so at least it seems to us, can never, in any adequate sense, be filled by any one person. We are, however, in no sense despairing about the work, which is the Lord's, to be carried on by the instruments He chooses.

You will have learned from the Minutes, ere this, that, temporarily, some other arrangement is to be made for the department of the Girls' School which fell to me, while I take some classes in the High School and College. This latter work it is a privilege to be able to do, which in some degree compensates for the grief it is to be away from the girls. It is more of a task to teach these proud young Brahmans, than to work with our responsive, affectionate Christian girls, and yet with all my heart, and more even than before, I believe in just the kind of work Mr. Smith is doing in this city. And the thing which has helped most to establish me in this belief, is the Bible class of twenty to thirty young men, all but four of whom are Hindus, with whom every morning I study for a recitation hour, the Gospel of Mark." It would be difficult to name any other way in which
the truths of Christianity could be brought to bear upon
^ just this class of young men could be met by the truths of Christianity, as they are met, day by day, in this and the other Bible recitations of the institution. They could not be

reached by street preaching surely, for they are students, and are busy over their books most of the time out of school hours: not by the Sunday preaching service surely, for few of them ever come to the church. Only by an institution like this, for which Mr. Smith has labored so indefatigably, and to which they would be attracted by its complete curriculum of preparatory and collegiate studies, could they be reached at all. And it is a matter of genuine and ~~altogether~~ agreeable surprise to me, to see how well, as a rule, they work at these lessons. ~~in Mark~~. The great majority of them come, ~~as a matter of course~~, with their lessons well prepared, and they answer well and thoughtfully, too. As an instance of this latter statement I recall one morning when we had been dwelling on the first chapter of Mark. I asked, at the close of the lesson hour, what there was in the chapter which seemed to them especially worth remembering. One of them suggested the miracles recorded there; another, the fact that the disciples followed him *straightway*. A third said the voice from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son etc"; a fourth said, he would remember the solitary prayer of Jesus and the fact that he did not perform his miracles for the sake of being famous, but charged those who were healed not to spread it abroad. For a Hindu boy, this last answer seemed to me very creditable, to say the least."

"The boys are, I am glad to say free with their questions, which are usually good, and ready to discuss fairly. In talking of the unwashen hands one day, as I was explaining to them that with the Pharisees this was a meaningless form, one lad ~~rose to~~ asked if baptism were not also only a ceremony. I was glad to have him ask the question, for it showed thought on his part, and gave me an opportunity to defend this Christian rite before an unusually intelligent class of young Brahmans. Some of these students have been in this High School for many years, and their general knowledge of the Bible is very good indeed."

"I was much interested one day to get their thoughts about faith and prayer. We were speaking of the faith that could remove mountains, and I asked if they all believed that God would indeed honor the prayer of faith. A Musselman boy at once rose to his feet and said he believed true faith would make all things possible, and almost immediately after a ~~#~~ Parsee lad added that true faith meant faith in the wisdom as well as the power of God. They seemed much impressed, a moment or two later by a reference to the death of the Professor whom they loved and honored. When asked whether they did not believe that if it had been best for the College in God's sight, He would have raised up from the bed of sickness and restored to them again their Professor, there was an instant's deep silence in the room, and without one dissenting voice they all answered "yes." I thought what a beautiful tribute to the memory of Prof. de Regt was the reverent hush that fell upon them the instant his name was mentioned. ~~As~~ the eyes of many of them were filled with tears, quickly."

This letter has already grown too long. "I thought you would be glad to know and pray for this Bible class, and ask others to join with you."

Very sincerely yours — Julia Bissell

P.S. There is a cousin of ours in Rockford, Illinois, who we think would be glad to come to India, and who might take my place in the Girls' School, when I go home in 1890. It would be well for her to be in the country a year before entering on the work and to that end, to come out next cold season (should she decide to come, and the Committee think best to have her.) Her address is, Miss Mary Norton, South Street, Rockford, Illinois. I have advised her to write to you. My sister knows and thinks her a capable earnest christian woman, — the right one to come to India —

Yours sincerely —
Julia Bissell.

Ahmednuggur, June 25 1888.
Rec'd July 25.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.
Secy. A. B. C. F. M.
Congregational House — Boston.

My dear Dr. Clark —

Two letters which have come from you in regard to several matters, have for some time been unanswered, partly on account of many pressing duties, and in part also because I was somewhat at a loss how to answer them.

First in regard to the grant for the Dormitory. It is not necessary to say that it was gladly received. I have written to the Woman's Board, acknowledging it. This dry season, which has proved so detrimental to the crops, has also been a most favorable time for us to put up the new building. It is now complete — a neat, commodious house, which will prove satisfactory, we feel assured.

Second, in answer to my suggestion that someone come to take my place in the Ahmednagar girls' school, a year hence, when I leave for medical study, I noticed the plan suggested in your letter that we invite one of the young ladies in Bombay, say Miss Millard, to come and supply the need of this school. By the minutes of this meeting, however, you will learn that Miss Millard has charge of a new girls' school, just started in a place some distance from ~~Bombay~~ Byculla, for which a sum of Rs 500 was sanctioned by the Mission to be asked as a special grant from the Woman's Board - I think - for next year. Miss Millard and Miss Lyman both now have especial work of their own, of which they have charge, and which it would be difficult for them to leave. Indeed, we would be loth to ask either of them to leave her work and come to do ours, when we feel that the importance of ~~the~~ her work is on her heart as that of this school is on our hearts. It seems a pity to discontinue this work now opening up ~~at~~ different points in Bombay, when there are so many at home who might come to the relief of this school. So once again I ask, and very earnestly, that if possible someone else be sent out to take my place a year from this time. It would be quite impossible for my sister to carry o this school alone. It needs the whole time of two young ladies. The additional work which came upon her, in consequence of my appointment to duties in the College and High School, has already told upon her strength a great deal, and the result of her taking such a burden again would, we fear, shorten her stay in this country, and oblige her to leave for rest and recuperation. About the medical course — I would not press the matter, were it not so perfectly evident that a resident lady physician is needed here. My mother does take the responsibility of the sick upon herself, but it is a great hindrance to her work among the high-caste women, to whom her long residence in Ahmednagar now gives her easy access. Moreover, it is very wearing, and tells upon her strength, which is less than it once was, a very great deal.

There is one more point on which I wish to write you, namely, that of advancing the educational standard of our girls' school. My sister, I think, wrote you of this, not long since, giving the reasons whic make it desirable that the standard should be raised. I write now to speak of the action of the Mission on this point – action taken yesterday afternoon. The Mission have voted that Rs 300 be asked from the Woman's Board to pay the expenses of a teacher for the advanced class – Rs 25 a month. With the funds now on hand, it is out of the question to do this advanced work, and yet all are agreed that it is desirable to raise the standard of this school.

In regard to the Rs 200 asked in addition to the sum granted for the board of pupils connected with this school, there is this to be said, that the scarcity of rain will greatly increase the running expenses of the school. The sum generally granted leaves no balance in the accounts of the school annually, and must fall far short of the amount necessary, if we are to keep on in school the same number of boarders which we now have; without this sum we must refuse to take in many from the villages who would otherwise be enjoying the benefits of this Christian School.

Yours very sincerely Julia Bissell

Miss Julia Bissell. 5
Rec'd Nov. 26. 1888.

Ahmednagar —
Jan. 21st 1889

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Sec'y A.B.C.F.M., Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Clark —

It is already some weeks since your letter dated Nov. 28th reached us. I would have replied to it sooner, but have been rather waiting for more definite news in regard to the additional grants asked for the girls school, in October, than you were able to give at the time of writing the letter. This information was received ~~last~~ two weeks ago, in a letter to my father, and I write to acknowledge the Rs 500, which it is a great relief both to my sister and myself to have for school uses, this year. The new class opens with two very promising students, and a valuable teacher, formerly a student in the Mission High School, and thence, though not a professing Christian, one interested in Mission schools. We have three such men in the school, now, — teachers of a friendly and helpful spirit, as well as high qualifications, whom it is now possible to secure, because of the work done by Mr. and Mrs. Smith and their faithful corps of instructors, in the High School.

Notice has also reached us of the scholarship sent us from Ohio. We have had correspondence on the subject of this scholarship, and were especially pleased because it came from the members of an Episcopal church school, who might otherwise have made no contribution to the work of our Board.

I have read carefully what you say about the one who is to come to Ahmednagar, next year, when I leave for America. My sister and I are united in hoping that it will not be necessary for one of the Bombay ladies to leave her work to supply the vacancy here. The work in Bombay is as near and dear to them as that in Nagar is to us. It would be a trial to one of us to feel that our school ~~would~~ must suffer, while we went to supply a vacancy in Bombay. Of course, in one sense the work is not ours, but that of the Mission, yet it is inevitable that the work work and its needs in any one station should weigh on our hearts more, the more we are acquainted with any particular branch of the work. And while, should it so seem best to the Mission, I am ready and glad to go to any other station, where they feel I am needed more than here, I should also be more than sorry at this time, to do anything that might seem to them — the ladies in Bombay — to exalt the importance of the work in Nagar, or depreciate that in Bombay. I long to have the work in Bombay go on, and be extended, and every visit to that city only deepens the longing, and makes the prayers for efforts made there more earnest. We would have the Bombay ladies feel that they have our deepest sympathy, and most earnest prayers, and that it would be a pain to us to see their work suffer.

Two thoughts have occurred to me recently in this connection, which I venture to mention, though they may not prove of any value. Two ladies of the Faith Mission in Akola north of us, are staying with us for a while for the purpose of studying the language, which they find it difficult to do, because of the lack of good teachers there. One of them has been for some years connected with city mission work in New York, having first taken a course in a training college for Christian

Ahmednagar, Jan. 31. 1889.
Rec'd March 2.

workers in that city. She comes with a large experience of work among the lowly and fallen — and it occurred to me that a lady might perhaps be secured who ~~has~~ had just such experience, in case there are no Wellesley girls ready to come. Another thought was that it would in many ways be an advantage to Nagar work, if one who was acquainted with Kindergarten methods should come. As yet work of that kind has not been introduced here, and it might be used to great advantage in some of our primary schools. Much of the material used in Kindergartens could be procured here, and both my mother and I feel that it might be a means of drawing more children to our schools for Hindu children, if such methods could be employed in them.

Our Civil Surgeon here advises strongly a course of study in London or Edinburgh, in preference to one ~~h~~ in America, because of the higher reputation enjoyed by the former universities, over those of America. —

Miss Bell, I hear, has been suffering from ill-health, since coming to India. That may have given a note of discouragement to her letters home. Otherwise

She seems happy and an enthusiastic worker. — Very sincerely, your Missionary daughter — Julia Bissell.

Ahmednagar India
July 1st 1889.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Secy A.B.C.F.M., Boston Mass.
My dear Dr. Clark,

Nearly a month has passed since the letter telling of ~~P~~ the appointment of Miss Hattie Bruce to the Marathi Mission, was received. We know her of course, and are very glad that she feels impelled to come to this Ahmednagar school, and take my place, when I leave next March. I should have spoken of her, in writing on the matter to you and to Miss Child, but supposed that if she was appointed, she would prefer to go with her parents to Satara, to working anywhere else: and we had also thought that her parents would probably feel that they could not spare her to work anywhere else than with them. I trust, however, that the ladies of the Woman's Board will still feel like looking for some one to be permanently over this school. There is much work that a young lady could find to do in Satara, and it would doubtless be a great help to Mrs. Bruce to have her daughter with her. I have written Miss Bruce a letter of welcome, and hope to write her again before she sails, telling something about the work to which she is coming. She will be a great help in the work here, and her full Christian experience will make her very valuable in lifting these Christian girls to a high plane of Christian living. I am praying for her that she may be granted good health, while in India, and thus enabled to carry out her plans better than I have been able to do. While at no time really serious illness has come to me, the climate of Ahmednagar has not seemed to agree with my physical make-up, and so many plans I have wished to carry out, have remained undeveloped, because of the physician's constant warnings. It is all for the best, and I have, I doubt not, been kept from making many a sad mistake, which I should have repented when too late, had my health been always good. The school is not mine not the Mission's but the Lord's, and His plans are infinitely wise therefore quite beyond our comprehension.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce intend reaching India some time in December, do they not? In that case, Miss Bruce will be here two or three months before I leave, which will probably not be until next March. It seems best to put off leaving till then, that I may not have to enter upon the medical ~~work~~ course at once on returning to America — _especially_ should my health not be better the next six months than it has been the last six.

We are hoping and praying, just now, for rain but the season has not opened favorably for it, and so far the fall has been very slight. The distress will be very general and very great, if this year's crops fail, also.

One thing more. In appointing me to come to India, the Prudential Committee appointed me for three years at my own request. Those three years will be over, by the first of December next. I have planned to stay on and work till the close of March, staying here in all four months over the time. Do the Prudential Committee wish me to stay on till the close of March, drawing my salary as usual? I mention that time only because it is the close of the school term, and the time when my parents and sister will be going to the hills, and so in every way a convenient time to leave my work. Of course it is impossible at this ~~&~~ time to say definitely that I shall leave at a certain time — nothing is certain except that we do not know what is before us and our Master does. I have yet to hear from home — through Miss Hodgkins of Wellesley, who promised to find out for me — whether the offer made three years ago by Mr. and Mrs. Rockefeller of New York, to ~~pay~~ meet the expenses of the Medical course, is still open to me, and ~~it~~ will be open next year. Much depends upon that.

You may be interested to know that I have fixed on a site which is a very good one for a dispensary, with room near to it for a hospital, in the city of Ahmednagar—

Excuse a hasty letter — With Christian regards — Julia Bissell.

Ahmednagar, July 1, 1889
Rec'd July 30 P.C.

Ahmednagar.
August 12th/89.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Secy A.B.C.F.M., Boston, Mass.

My dear Dr. Clark—

Yesterday evening one of the members of the present Theological class came to speak to me, about a family whom he had especially noticed, in the suburb of this city, where he goes for evangelistic work. The family is from the lowest caste, and belong at Wambori, one of our outstations in Dr. Ballantine's district. They are here for a few months only, but have listened well to Vithoba's—he is the Theological student—preaching from the first. The husband is a wandering religious mendicant of some kind, so that they never stay long in one place. One son is attending one of our schools here, and they had with them a daughter about twelve years old. This girl goes around with her parents, from place to place, but is growing up fast, and will soon lose her character entirely, if we do not take her and give her an opportunity to begin a better life. She is eager to study, and her parents wish to have her. They themselves, Vithoba says, declare themselves ready to profess Christianity and wish to have this girl brought up among and by Christians. They are willing to make her over to us entirely, if we will take and put her in this boarding school. I told Vithoba to bring the girl here this morning and let me see and talk with her. He promised to do so, and she came. When I asked her if she wanted to come to school, her face brightened and she said yes and looked pleased at the thought. She is a nice-appearing girl, quiet and well-behaved in school so far as I have seen her today. I hope to go and see the parents before they leave the city.

You have perhaps questioned why I should have told you of this case in detail, when there seems nothing especial about it to merit so much attention. But admitting this girl to school opens up a serious question, concerning which ~~I~~ we would like your opinion.

This girl's school has always been looked on as existing for the children of Christian parents largely, if not altogether. Girls from Hindu families have rarely been admitted even as day scholars. Among all our 150 scholars this year, I doubt if there are as many as twenty from heathen homes. There are some — and among them are some of our most promising girls, who have become members of this Church and are true Christians in belief, practice and experience.

So far as we have been able to ascertain, from the past history of the school, there have been two main reasons why the daughters of heathen parents who were willing to come, have not been more generally admitted into the boarding department. 1st It has been thought that with them an undesirable influence would find its way into the school; that in an institution like this, whose main object was to train Christian girls ~~for~~ to be teachers and women of decided Christian influence, it was not best to have very many who came from heathen homes. 2nd Admitting this class of girls, means adding to the expenses of the school, for such pupils would not come unless we undertook their entire support, promising them food, clothing and everything they need. It has been thought that, inasmuch as the school funds were limited anyway, they should be used, as far as they went, for Christian girls - i.e. children of Christian parents. They should be the first to enjoy the advantages of such an institution, inasmuch as the training up of Christian families was one of the most important features of our work.

With ~~both~~ the second of these reasons, I have no fault to find, but it seems to me that even while admitting ~~their~~ its force we might plan to enlarge this school in the direction suggested, without serious injury to the interests of the work. Whatever may have been the case in former years, the influence of the school itself and the outside influences, emanating from the church, the Sunday School and the Christian community in general - are so strongly Christian, as to outweigh any possible harm that may come from the influence of a few scholars brought into it from heathen homes. To say that we were not able to meet and overcome such slight influences would, it seems to me, be admitting a deplorable weakness in the work somewhere. The glory of the school would be to take just such pupils and, by bringing them into a Christian atmosphere, mould them into true Christian women to wield a pure influence wherever they went.

The force of the second argument, that of the funds needed, is far greater, and it does present a real difficulty to this enlargement. If we take in more heathen scholars, we must have more to support them, a permanent fund on which we can depend from year to year, for them, especially. Many arguments present themselves to me, urging us to throw our doors open to this class of scholars. 1st It will make this institution a more directly evangelizing force, which it cannot be said to be, now. Its advantages, as I said, are enjoyed by very few girls who do not come from Christian homes. By admitting more of this class, we should be able to bring to a knowledge of Christ many, who might otherwise not have that knowledge. And in the case of girls this especially necessary work. We should by this means be able to rescue many from a life of sin and shame. Many daughters are, in fulfilment of a vow made by their parents devoted to certain idols, which means given up to sin. They become the priestesses of those idols and only sin and shame await them, through all their years of a womanhood that might be a power for good among their people. — Again, by taking more of these girls we would gain an influence over their parents which it would be impossible to acquire by other means. The parents become interested in the religion their children have professed, and which impels us to do so much for their children. — Again, for many years a practical difficulty in the way of such work was the fact that the parents were not willing to send their daughters, ~~at any~~ even when the offer was made to undertake all the expenses of their food and clothing; but the case is now coming to be different. They are more and more willing to give their children up to us, to educate and train them. And with these opportunities offering themselves often, we are not prepared to meet them.

And until there is a permanent increase of at least Rs. 500 a year in the school funds, we must still refuse admittance to many girls who, like this one of which I have told you in the early part of this letter, wish to come to us.

Now the question is whether, in your judgment and that of the ladies of the Woman's Board, it is desirable to enlarge the work of the school in this way. It is a question of policy as well as of expenditure, and to admit these pupils now will be establishing a precedent for the future. It should not be done without due fore-thought and a careful consideration of the results. It seems to me that the presence of such a class of girls will have a most healthful influence upon those from Christian families, in stimulating them to let their light shine the more before those who have not enjoyed the advantages of a Christian home.— May I trouble you to show this letter to Miss Child, for her consideration? I had hoped to write her on this same subject, by this mail, but have been interrupted and hindered so that I must leave that until later.—

Please excuse the length of this letter

and the demands it will make upon your time. The notice that the meeting of the Board was postponed till the last of October induced me to write this now, instead of waiting till two months later, as I had thought of doing, for fear of its finding you at a very busy time.

With Christian regards,

yours most sincerely,

Julia Bissell.

Julia Bissell.
Ahmednagar Aug 12, 1889.
Rec'd Sept 9, 1889.
Ack'd Oct. 17.

Girl admitted to school?

Ahmednagar.
Sep. 8th 1889.

To - Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D., -
Sec'y A. B. C. F. M. -
My dear Dr. Clark -

Doubtless the discussion regarding the methods of Miss'y work in India has* long ere this reached America and Americans, and with it the criticisms of the higher educational work being carried on in such institutions as the Madras Christian College, the Wilson College of the Free Church of Scotland's Mission in Bombay, and in the Ahmednagar College and High School, all of which are attended by so large a number of students from the Brahaman and other higher castes. The criticisms levelled at such institutions start with the assumption that ~~th~~ they are not properly speaking evangelizing agencies, ~~and~~ inasmuch as the students attend purely for the sake of the secular education they afford, and that the hour a day or so of instruction in the Bible actually

~~creates~~ makes no impression on, awakens no interest in the Christian religion in, the hearts of the students. The vernacular press of the Bombay Presidency has also taken up the cry, and loses no opportunity of casting a slur on the "futility of the efforts put forth by missionaries," to spread a knowledge of the Christian religion by the means of these institutions of higher education. That these criticisms are not founded upon fact, but on an ignorance of the real facts of the case, may be seen from the enclosed letter, ~~which~~ is a translation of one that appeared in this week's issue of the Dnyanodaya, our Mission paper. There is very little to indicate in what institution the "Brahman Student" has studied, but the fact of his having studied "seven or eight years" in the same school, and the mention of the "Prarthana Samaj" and of the hue and cry raised by Hindus in Ahmednagar, when it seemed likely that they missionaries would have control of the High School education of the city all point to the supposition that he is a student in our Mission College or High School, in this city. And this inference is further substantiated by the fact, that not a few of the students now in attendance on that institution have freely acknowledged to their instructors, their deep conviction of the saving power of Christianity and of the merits and claims of Christ as a personal Savior. More than this, they have confessed that they have already accepted Him at heart, and that a public profession of their faith is now all that remains between them and the name of "Christian." But the letter will speak for itself. May it move all who may read it to pray earnestly, that the strength which is made perfect in weakness, may be granted to these young men to confess openly the Savior to whom they have already given their hearts.

I have sent this to you, feeling sure that it would deeply interest you and other members of the Prudential Committee. To us it seems like the welcome first-fruits of the faithful work which

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been doing in the High School, for Brahman students, ever since their arrival in Ahmednagar.

Always most sincerely yours—
Julia Bissell.

P.S. The foot-notes are of course all mine.

iss Julia Bissell
Ahmednagar, Sept. 8, 1882
Rec'd Oct. 8

Miss Child

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Ahmednagar
Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D. Sep 26th/89.
Boston, Mass.
Dear Dr. Clark —

It is necessary to write you by this mail of a change in my plans about returning to America. The Civil Surgeon of this place, whom we called in for a consultation, last Tuesday morning," advised, very strongly, that I leave for America soon, instead of waiting until next spring. A lady of an English Society is to leave for England by the mail steamer of the 4th, and it has seemed best for me to plan to go home with her. My health has been poor for a year now — though I have not been in a critical condition — and Dr. Carson said very plainly that to stay on until March would surely mean to lose much more strength. Considering all things then, it seemed best to father and mother, — and other members of the Mission have supported them — to arrange for me to go home soon.

Miss Julia Bissell

I need not say it is a great disappointment to ~~see to~~ leave the work so suddenly and before the three years I had hoped to spend in India ~~were~~ are over. We can only hope that this is the leading of God — and that all will be for the best.

I did not formally ask permission of the Mission, as I go at my ~~own~~ expense — My sister has written Miss Child of this.

With most cordial greetings —
Yours as ever —
Julia Bissell

We did not hear good reports of your health, Dr. Clark, at the last that we heard, but are trusting that strength has been restored again. Letters from you are always a great encouragement and help in every way to us here.

Julia Bissell,
Ahmednagar, Sept. 26, 1887
Rec'd Oct. 23

Miss Julia [redacted]

Auburndale, Nov. 19. 1889.

Rec'd Nov. 20.

Auburndale
Nov. 19th 1889.

My dear Dr. Clark-

Please excuse the liberty I have taken of addressing you on other than official paper. I wanted a private hand-shaking before resorting to business matters.

Thank you for the kind letter which was received this morning. I was sorry to miss you yesterday, and am glad to look forward to meeting you next week.

Auburndale will be my address for the present, and I shall gladly hold myself in readiness to come to your office at any time that word comes from you.

The voyage has benefitted me, I feel, and was a pleasant one in every way.—

Very, cordially yours.

Julia Bissell

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Ahmednagar.
1st April 1885.

Rev. Dr. Clark Secretary.

My dear Sir.

I was asked by the mission to send you a letter twice a year in regard to our Schools. I suppose the village Schools are especially meant — as the "Higher Schools are reported yearly by those in charge of them.

Our village schools are an important agency in connection with our work, & we would be glad if we had the men & means, greatly to increase the number of them.

1. These schools are a great help in gaining access to the people, & obtaining a hearing for the gospel message. We cannot expect that many of the people of a village, who have no love for spiritual things, will be ready to listen frequently, & will come together when we call them. But a school is itself a nucleus, as well as a novelty, & will help draw the people together. And the address to the purpils may

become a sermon to the parents.

11- The school is generally among the poorer & lower classes, who would otherwise be without any means of obtaining an education. In nearly all the large villages there is now a Govt school. This is taught by a Bráhman or other educated man. As a matter of fact the Govt rules admit all classes to the schools, but if the lower castes send their boys, the people make it so uncomfortable for them that they are soon withdrawn. In one village where I visited the Govt school, there was one boy from the Mahar quarter, who had learned to read, but had never been allowed to sit with the other members of his class, or receive any thing more than the crumbs of instruction which were thrown to him from a distance. All seemed to consider it the right thing that he should be kept apart from the others, *because he was a Mahar*. It is no disgrace to be a Mahar, any more than it is for a sheep not to be a horse. Each one is born to his condition.

& there are certain rights belonging to each caste. & certain privileges belong to the high castes which are denied to the lower. This is supposed to be is the fiat of an inexorable fate, or a no less inexorable deity, if a divine part is acknowledged. Having grown up with these ideas, which have prevailed for many generations, they are not easily eradicated. The Mahars do not readily join us in trying to break down these barriers, as might be expected. They are as great sticklers for caste as the higher classes. For among these out-caste classes are a higher & a lower grade of position. The Mang, who is next below the Mahars, is shut out from intercourse with the latter, just as both are excluded from the higher castes. If we have a school house apart from both quarters, different castes will allow their children to come & study together. And this is one step gained towards bringing them together. The children thus sitting side by side, & studying the same lessons, will not consider the difference of caste such an important matter as their parents have been accustomed to do.

III. A third consideration is, that while we gain some advantage by means of the schools in influencing adults, we are constantly drawing the children away from Hinduism, & towards Christianity. The young are the most hopeful class in any land, & with the Christian education of the children of India the false systems of religion will disappear, & gospel truth will take their place. But how slowly this work is progressing. How few among the millions of the children are learning to read, & how few even of these are receiving a *Christian* education.

I send with this a paper (it can hardly be called a *map*) showing the villages of the Kolgov district, south of Ahmednagar. There are over 200 of these, & in only ten or a dozen of these is there a Christian school or a Bible Reader. This district is 50 miles in length (north to south) & over half that in width. There ought to be at least fifty Christian schools in this district, & if we had the men & money, that number could probably be opened in the course of two or three years. In many of the smaller villages the people of the good castes, (so called), would be willing to send their children to a Christian school, as there is no gov't school at hand. But instead of thus extending our work we are asked to "retrench", & can hardly increase the number of schools in the district by one or two in a year. We cannot of course increase very fast, for there are not students enough graduating from the Normal school year by year to give more than one or two additional men in each district. Some, (or perhaps one or two I should say,) of the districts are better supplied than the Kolgaw dist. Others are no better supplied. If a look at this map gives the impression that our work is not so far advanced as it was hoped to be, after so many years of labor spent, it is still better to have the true state of the case known than to have a false impression prevail in regard to the wants of the field. It must also be borne in mind that the very fact that many of these villages are asking for Christian schools represents a great advance in the position of the people toward Christianity. A few years ago they would not have Christian teachers, nor even now will they in all places. But in many places they would be glad of them.

And now our plea is to be allowed to give them schools where they are [illegible] receive such instruction, & follow up this agency with others as earnestly & efficiently as possible.

Very truly yours

L. Bissell

Ahmednagar

Byculla. Bombay
17th Apr. 1885

Rev. Dr. Clark. For. Secy.

My dear Sir,

I am very sorry to inform you of the illness of our son Arthur's wife, which has taken such a serious turn that the attending physician has urged her speedy removal from this climate. The whole thing has come upon us within a month, & almost overwhelmed us with sorrow— About the 25th of March. Arthur & his wife in accordance with previous plans, left Ahmednagar to spend the rest of the hot season on the Mahableshwar hills— Nellie had a little fever for two a three days before they started, but was not seriously ill, & as she felt pretty well the morning they started, we anticipated the change would do her good. The journey proved a wearisome one, & the fever was rather increased by it than lessened— & it held on for the ten days of their stay at Mahableshwar—

The superintending surgeon, who was attending her, then advised a change to Bombay, which often proves the very best thing in a case of obstinate fever. My wife met them at Poona, & came on with them to help care for the sick one. This was April 7th, 10 days ago. The change proved beneficial in removing the fever, & she has been now for several days quite free from it. But there was a degree of mental aberration owing to a disturbed brain, as the doctor says, which has not ceased with the disappearance of the fever; & which in this climate is in danger of being aggravated — almost sure to be. So Dr. Sydney Smith who has been attending her, has had several similar cases within a year or two, & he asserts that the only saftey is in a sea voyage to some cooler clime — Night before last she became so violent that two strong women could hardly hold her on the bed. Her fancies are mostly of a melancholy character, but sometimes she loses all self-control, & the spirit of mischief gains possession — Under the advice of Dr. Smith we are getting other medical counsel, & consulting with the members of the mission, as to the expediency of sending her to America without delay.

You will understand what a trial this is to us, & to Arthur. Nothing but the feeling that this was imperative in the circumstances, could induce us to think of such a course. But we fear the alternative would be a removal to the Lunatic Asylum in this city, & possibly prolonged lunacy.

The best course to be pursued is yet a matter of consideration - & I shall write you again (D.V.) in a week - I am sure of your sympathy & prayers in this great trial - We wait on the Lord to know what He would have us do.

Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Ap. 18. 1883. Bombay

Recd May 16. 83.

Ahmednagar 30th April
1885

Rev. Dr. Clark. For. Secretary.

My dear Sir.

I wrote you from Bombay on the 17th inst. of the serious illness of Arthurs wife, & that the physician had urged a sea voyage & visit to America. In accordance with this suggestion, having asked the opinion of the mission, & received their approval of the plan, arrangements were made for their passage on the "Clan Forbes" for Liverpool; & they sailed on the 26th inst.

The letter of Doctor Smith, who attended her during her illness in Bombay, is as follows — Bombay 17th April 1885.

My dear Dr. Bissell,

I have had your daughter-in-law Mrs. Bissell under my medical care for about a fortnight, & have carefully watched her case. Her illness began as you know with an attack of fever, & although she has recovered from that, yet it has left a certain amount of aberration of intellect which I regret to see does not improve as I had hoped

From considerable experience of similar cases, I am fully convinced that her only chance of ultimate recovery is in her speedy removal from India. I shall be very glad to hear that you are making arrangements for her departure — The sea voyage itself is likely to be of great benefit in her case. She of course requires great & unremitting attention. Believe me,

yours very truly

(Signed) Sidney Smith

Doctor Smith called in Dr. Cook as counsel, who wrote as follows on Dr. Smith's note —

Having met in consultation & carefully examined the patient, I entirely concur with Dr. Sidney Smith in his view of the case, & am decidedly of opinion that the patient should be removed from India at as early a date as possible.

(Signed) Henry Cook

Both these gentlemen are eminent physicians, & it seemed not safe or wise to neglect their advice. Mr. Harding wrote on the circular "You could not get better medical advice than you have had, & it would be wrong not to follow it." The other brethren of the mission, also while expressing deep regret at the necessity of the removal, approved of it as fully justified in the circumstances. And so one brief month has changed the whole outlook of the future to Arthur & his wife, & largely also to us his parents. Until we hear from him of the effect of the voyage upon Nellie, it is useless to speculate upon the future. During the last few days that Nellie was with us, she appeared more rational, & wept when the Doctor told her she must take a sea voyage to America. "Why do you cry," he asked - "They will not send me back", said she. About the middle of the last night she asked me to pray with her, (as I had often done before.) - Deaf with quinine which she had taken she said, "please speak loud so that I can hear". At the close of a brief prayer she uttered a fervent amen, & then folding her hands over her breast dropped off to sleep. But during the last three days fever had come on again, & the doctor was not sorry that the steamer anticipated by a couple of days its time of sailing. nearly A month must pass before we can hear from them, as the steamer does not call at Aden.

In all this trial we feel sure the Lord is accomplishing some wise & good purpose of His own; & we humbly wait on Him to lead us & our children to understand aright the lessons He would teach us.

With Christian love
as ever fraternally yours
L. Bissell

P. S. Mrs. Bissell & myself returned to Ahmednagar yesterday, & are picking up the threads of our work which we dropped when we left. We are thankful to have been kept so well during all the watching & anxiety of the past month.

I find here your letter of March 23d, respecting the Industrial School at Sirur – This will come before us at our mission meeting in the coming month.

yrs L. B.

Ahmednagar – Apr. 20. 83.
Rec'd June 1. '83.

Ans

Extract from minutes of Mission Meeting at Mahableshwar. May 1885-

Voted that we approve of Bro. R. A. Hume asking permission of the Prudential Committee to visit America, leaving India in August next.

That Miss Sarah F. Hume having been associated with us, & taken a very efficient part in our mission work for three years, & having acquired a good knowledge of the Marathi language, we should consider it a great loss for her now to leave; & we therefore cordially invite her to remain & continue her labors in the mission; & that from the departure of her brother she receive the regular allowances of an unmarried lady of the mission; & that she be stationed at Ahmednagar. [Subject to the approval of the Prudential Committee.]

That on the departure of Bro. R. A. Hume the Párner & Jámbgáv districts be placed in the charge of Miss Hume.

L. Bissell sec.

Mahableshwar, May, 1885

Rec'd - June 29. 1885

P. 6.

89

Mahabbleshwar. India
30th May 1885.

Rev. Dr. Clark. Secretary of the
A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Your two letters of April 15th, & April 21st. were duly received; & how fully they were appreciated by us you will be able to understand from the following Resolution adopted on the last day of our meeting, which closed on the 28th inst.

"Voted that the Secretary send the hearty thanks of the mission to Dr. Clark for his two letters of Apr. 15th & Apr. 21st. received during this meeting, which have greatly helped us in preparing our estimates for 1886, & cheered us in our work".

Our meeting was deferred two weeks this year, partly that we might hear from you, & the minutes are not yet ready to be forwarded. But I will send them as soon as I can next month. Meanwhile I may say here that our regular estimates for 1886 amount to about Rs 83000. & the Contingent estimates to about Rs4000.

Bro. R. A. Hume will have written you of the vote of the mission with reference to his return to America in August next. On account of his departure, & that of others also in near prospect, we look with the greater interest to learn the effect of the voyage on Arthur's wife, & the possibility of his speedy return to India. The mission adopted the following minute with reference to this matter. –

"That we can but lament the providence which removed Bro. Arthur Bissell & his wife from our Mission circle. Having speedily recovered his use of the Marathi language, he had been put in charge of the Kolgav District, & in view of the expected departure of others on furlough to America, additional duties would have been assigned to him at this meeting. These duties must now be undertaken by those who are already overburdened. We rejoice to hear of the benefit to Mrs. Bissell from the first part of the voyage; & hope that the restoration of her health may be so complete, that physicians & the

Prudential Committee will approve of their speedy return to India."

It may be premature to speak of their return before we learn the full effect of the voyage, as all depends upon the restoration of her health. But if our hopes are realized on this point, we trust the matter will very soon be considered.

Dr. Sidney Smith, her physician in Bombay, wrote me very soon after their departure as follows.—

"In my opinion you may have very good hope indeed of the ultimate recovery of Mrs. Bissell. It is highly probable that the sea voyage may have an exceedingly beneficial effect upon her, & by judicious treatment & frequent change of scene, her health may be rapidly reinstated. Should these hopes be realized, I see no reason why she should not return to India, for I do not think she would be by any means more likely to experience a recurrence of her illness here than in Europe or America."

I am afraid this severe illness & sudden withdrawal from the work may have a depressing effect upon them; & possibly they might think that Providence has closed the door against their finding their life-work in the missionary field. I do not think Arthur's wife should return without spending one winter at home. But possibly he might return with Dr. Ballantine, if Nellie's health gave promise of full restoration, & she could come six months or a year later. If he should engage in some work at home, he might be led to make the engagement a permanent one, & thus be lost to our mission. I shall write him on this subject after hearing from him at Liverpool. At present we have news from them only as far as Port Said. As in addition to Mr. Hume, now arranging for a visit to America, Dr. Fairbank, Mr. Bruce, & Mr. Gates are all looking forward to such a visit in the near future, & Mr. E. S. Hume is also in his tenth year in India, you will see what an important consideration it becomes to keep if possible every one appointed to this mission. But I must close — I have been here 15 days, & return (D.V.) to Nagar June 1st — Mrs. Bissell has been in Nagar since the sailing of Arthur & his wife —

with Christian love, yrs fraternally,
L. Bissell

Recd. July 10

Ahmednagar June 22nd 1885

Rev. Dr. Clark, Sec.

My dear Sir,

Enclosed I send a copy of the minutes of our meeting held last month at Mahableshwar. Of the first five items of business transacted by circular you have already rec'd full accounts.

Res. 6. Bro. R. A. Hume no doubt will have written you of his purpose to visit America - and I need say nothing more than that the mission thought he was entitled to this furlough, having completed nearly eleven years of hard work in India.

Res. 7. We have no doubt this action will commend itself to the Prudential Committee. As long as Miss Hume is able to remain and work in the mission, we shall be glad to have her stay here. Hitherto she has lived in her brothers family and the allowances have been the same as to other mission families. But when her brother leaves, she will need the regular allowances of a single lady in the mission.

Res. 8. If Miss Hume has good health she will be able to take charge of the Pàrner district, and so far relieve one of the missionaries - probably myself, who have already resumed charge of the

Kolgav District. (See Res. No. 9)

Res. 10. The care of one child, thus left with friends in India, is more expensive than where several are together with their parents. It is still possible that Hannah may accompany her father to America.

Res. 11. I have already sent you a copy of this minute with remarks upon it.

Res. 13. The suggestion in your letter of March 23rd. with reference to a Committee to advise with Bro. Winsor in regard to the Industrial School, was acceptable to him, and this committee was appointed.

Res. 15. These rules are adapted for the guidance of native agents: to stimulate their activity, and lead them to be more careful about turning their attention to other things than their proper work.

Res. 16-18. also refer to our native agents, and the blank books are for the purpose of securing regular reports from them in regard to their labors. We have found that requiring such reports helps to hold them to their work. The statistics of the schools will help us in filling out the Station reports for which you have sent blank forms.

Res. 19. I enclose a copy of the By-law referred to shall keep rigidly within the sum total for his district; but may transfer appropriations, if he find it necessary, from one department of his ordinary expenses to another.

Note.—By "ordinary expenses" are meant those for repairs, Native agency Education ~~schools, assistants~~, tours, and travelling on Mission business.

as it now is, from which you will see the bearing of this amendment. The chief object is to avoid the necessity of asking special grants, by allowing the missionary to arrange for small sums that may be needed by transferring from one department to another. This is already allowed to some extent in the "note" appended to the By law, and the amendment to the By-law gives a little further liberty in the same direction. Res. 24. gives an example of the liberty asked for in the amendment, which cannot now be taken by the missionary without a special vote of the mission approved by the Prudential Committee. But it is not asked that the missionary have permission to make transfers in all the appropriations of his district. Those for "personal allowances, for new buildings, or for printing special works", are excepted. Such sums if not used of course lapse to the mission treasury. In Dr. Clark's letter of Apl. 15th. '85, reporting several special grants, after enumerating them he remarks, "These grants are made, leaving the mission liberty to apply the sums granted for these several objects, either to the objects named in case the same need exists as when the requests were first presented, or for such other objects in the different departments as may now be judged best." As the mission was holding its annual business meeting when this letter came, a few changes were made in accordance with the above suggestion. If the amendment is approved it will open the way for such adjustments to be made by the missionary in his own district.

Res. 20 + 21 have reference to the care of mission property. But since the meeting at Mahableshwar, a circular from Bro. E. S. Hume says he has rec^d an offer from the Lessee to buy the (old mission Press) property for Rs. 30,000 - and this will probably be accepted.

Res. 22 + 23. refer to the adjustment of accounts. One cannot pay the bills till they are presented, and then they must be paid at once. Some heavy bills for tapes which had been accumulating for some time were sent to Bro. Hume just at the close of the year - I had a similar experience here - a bill for exchange in '84 (Rs. 57) was sent me in January '85 after I had closed my account for last year. - This one bill was nearly half as much again as the amount I had asked for exchange for the whole year 1885 - which must now be provided for from some other department, or a special grant be asked.

Res. 24 - See remarks on Res. 19.

Res. 25, about the Bible Dictionary will be intelligible without any explanation.

Res. 26 & 27 ditto.

Res. 28 & 29. The two persons referred to in these resolutions are among the very best of our native christians. The young man is the son of Instructor Modak of our Theol. Seminary, and the other is the daughter of Shāhurāv, Marathi editor of the Dnyanodaya. She passed the matriculation examination last year and was offered a position as Teacher in the Hindu Girls Institution at Poona, on Rs. 50 per mo. But considerations of health and the difficulty of the position for a native christian young woman, led her parents to decline the offer. The two persons are understood to be engaged to each other, and if Shāhu Modak should enter upon the work at Sholapur, probably they would be married and both go to Sholapur. Bro. Gates feels that in the present reduced state of our mission he cannot expect a missionary will be sent to take charge of his district when he leaves it next year. And he must therefore seek the best possible superintendent from among our native christians.

Res. 30 to 35 refer to the employment, dismissal, or adjustment of pay of some of our native agents. Res. 36 - 39 are in the line of our regular work. Res. 40. Forty cents is more than the rupee is worth according to the present rate of exchange. We understand the American Consul in Bombay in pecuniary transactions with the Amer. Govt. calls the rupee 37 7/10 cents. This rate would have given us a sum large enough to cover all our contingent estimates also - but reckoning at 40 cents we have $35 000 = Rs. 87,500, and deducting from this Rs 3,150. for Arthur Bissell's allowances. + Rs 1140. the difference between the allowance for Bro. R. A. Hume, and those for his sister, we have Rs. 83,210 which is more than the amount of our regular estimates for 1886.

I send a copy of the Estimates, with a page at the close showing the part which may be properly called woman's work - This is also indicated in the regular estimates by a mark with red ink. I hope they will be intelligible & satisfactory.

By last weeks mail we received letters from Arthur at Liverpool - The improvement in his wifes health was very encouraging. I hope that a short stay in America may be sufficient to complete the restoration. We shall look anxiously to hear what they say, & what you say about their return.

With the preparation of these minutes & Estimates, I have no more time for writing today. Miss French of the "Faith Mission", (Dr. Cullis;) is staying with us a month or two, & has rendered me much assistance in copying.

Very fraternally yours
L. Bissell

Ammidown jr. –

June 22, 1885 –

—

Ahmednagar
29th June 1885

Rev. Dr. Clark. Secretary.

My dear Sir.

Your letter of the 21st of May came last week, one day after the weekly overland mail had gone — I reply therefore by the first opportunity. The delay of six days has enabled me to consult the other members of the mission, & replies have been recd from all; & the following resolution has been unanimously approved. —

Resd. that we renew our application to the Prudential Committee (stated in Res. 2d of our minutes of Oct. 1883.) to send out "a suitable man to take charge of the scientific Department of the Mission High School at Ahmednagar."

Bro. Smith was laid aside by an attack of bilious fever when your letter came, & the urgent need of some one to superintend the school during his illness added emphasis to this resolution – Such an institution should not be dependent upon the health of one missionary for continuous superintendence, & management. There should be a second man who can take charge when one is absent or ill. In an ordinary school it might be possible to arrange for the work to be done by native teachers. But in a large institution of this kind, the interests of the school will suffer if left frequently to the native teachers without oversight. I hope the man needed for this place may soon be secured. If he will study the language (Marathi) & look forward to a permanent connection with the mission, it will be all the better

Very truly yours
L. Bissell

P. S. Miss Fairbank is writing you in regard to a grant asked for a Hospital room which may be separate from the other dormitories, & afford a little quiet for the sick among the girls. It is very much needed, & should be built this year — sometimes a case of small pox or cholera occurs, requiring complete isolation for several days, & at present there is no means of securing this. If we could be assured that this sum Rs 400, would be granted among the appropriations of next year, we could proceed at once with the building, as a part of the funds are already in hand. This sum has been approved by the mission as indeed all the items of the Estimates have been, whether a special vote was passed upon each one separately or not.

P. S. 2.

I went out to a village five miles away yesterday (Sabbath) morning, & at a meeting in the new school house just completed, baptized seven adults. Three of these were men, three others their wives, & the seventh a widow. All of them were Mahars, but the Pátil & other chief men of the town were present, & interested in the services. They have helped in building the school house, & say they will send their children to school. There are about twenty Christians in this village now, & a promise of more.

Another piece of good news is too good to keep to myself — A friend has given a thousand rupees to help us build a Tract & Book Depot in the city; & I am now negotiating for a good site. I have been longing for this for several years, but the way did not seem open to ask it in our estimates; & now the Lord has provided it without any effort on our part. May it prove to be for His own glory.

Yrs. L. B.

June 29. 1885

Ahmednagar
13th July 1885.

My dear Dr. Clark.

I enclose a Tabular view of the Marathi Mission for the current year, & hope it is not too late to be of use to you. I learned long ago - & am still taking lessons in the same line - that I can only do a small part of the work which seems important, & even matters that seem *imperatively* to demand attention I must sometimes give the go-by. But I am glad still to be able to do something.

We hope in a day or two to hear of the arrival of Arthur & his wife in America. And I hope before many days that we shall hear of plans for his return.

Very truly Yours
L. Bissell

Ahmednagar, July 13. /85,

Rec'd Aug. 15.

Ahmednagar.
July 25th 1885.

Rev. Dr Clark. For. Secretary.

My dear Sir.

Last week we received a letter from our daughter Emily, saying that she had written you with reference to coming out to India, to be with us in our home, & help us in any way she could in connection with our work. This proposition is something different from the one suggested by you in a letter of January last, in regard to Emily's coming to take charge, or be associated with some one in charge of the Girls school here — I replied to that letter that we did not think Emily's health was equal to such an undertaking. She was then under the care of a physician in Chicago, who has since pronounced her free from disease, & told her there was nothing in her state of health that need to stand in the way of her going to India. We are thankful for this, whether she ever comes or not. She has been carrying on

Ahmednagar, July 13. 1885.

her work in connection with the Wisconsin Branch of the Woman's Board, & has seemed to be free from the weakness she felt a year ago.

Emily could help & relieve us in many ways if she were here, & perhaps our term of service might thus be somewhat prolonged. The amount of miscellaneous work in connection with such a central station as this is, is very great; & often takes hours & hours of my time day after day. There is no evading it except by running away; & then it accumulates & presses with the greater force when I return. Much of this work is of a petty kind, which a person like Emily might do, & I could thus have the more time & strength to devote to my proper missionary labors. She could also help her mother in many parts of her work, superintending her schools, meeting the women, & indeed, her work could be indefinitely extended with strength & time to carry it on — so that there is no danger of Emily not finding enough to do if she should come out to us in the manner proposed.

I think she would also study the Marathi (which she has not entirely forgotten) & thus be preparing herself for work here permanently, if duty seemed to open in that direction. Meanwhile we are also hoping that Arthur & his wife will eventually be able to return, & thus Emily could find a home here even if we were called away. But these contingencies can safely be left where all the future is, in the keeping of our Heavenly Father. I hope she will come only if He is leading her in this direction to increase her usefulness.

If Emily is to come to us, it would be well for her to come with Dr. & Mrs. Ballantine of our mission, who I suppose will be leaving in October — This would also be the best time in the year to reach Bombay. We write to her by this mail, presenting both sides of the question to her, & then leave it with her to decide.

Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Ahmednagar, July 20, 55.

Rec'd Aug. 29.

Ahmednagar. India
7th Sept. 1885

The Rev. Dr. Clark
For. Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Your letter of July 27th was received on the 1st inst., & I send this reply by the first mail which leaves for England. I have prepared one of the forms you sent some months ago for Station reports, filling it up with regard to the Ahmednagar Station as I suppose it was desired. I have also sent one of the blank forms to Mr. E. S. Hume, & asked him to forward you the statistics of that station. Bombay & Ahmednagar are the two stations at which the greatest expenses are incurred, & where the greater part of the receipts for schools are taken. And there was not time to send to all the other districts, & obtain the statistics from them without waiting another week. I am a little in doubt whether you wish the forms filled out for the year that is past. or with reference to the estimates of the coming year.

If the former, it can only be done after the close of the year. As all the members of the mission then send in their accounts to the Treasurer, it would be comparatively easy for them to note the items of income & out-go, & fill out the forms accurately. But if the forms are to be filled out with reference to the next year's estimates, they will vary somewhat from the accounts of the preceding year, & many items can be given only approximately; as Govt grants, donations, &c. are always a doubtful factor. Two years ago we had a bawling Brahman to examine the Girls school here at Nagar. He frightened the girls out of most that they knew, & then by a technicality cheated us out of Rs100+, so that we received a little over Rs300 - Last year a courteous English Inspector examined the school & gave Rs620. I have filled out this form with reference to the estimates. You will see that the sums asked of the Board are what we estimate will be needed after the receipts from other sources are deducted. The receipts are chiefly for schools.

I note the inquiries in your letter about the "four preachers in Bombay", & other four in Nagar. You ask if nothing is received from the people for these. Nothing is received as these preachers are not the stated supply of any christian congregations, but are evangelists to the heathen. The christians support their pastors, but they are not yet able to do much more than this. The Nagar Church have for two or three years supported one Bible Reader, besides the pastor. But this year they have two pastors, & I think it will be as much as they can do to raise the salary of both these men.

So of our Theological Students — they are all Bible Readers or Teachers in the employ of the mission: they have no income but their monthly allowance from the mission. All but one are married, & have a wife & children dependent upon them. They are brought in here for study in order to fit them for better work as preachers & teachers, by giving them a better knowledge of the Bible & other departments of truth. The best men among them will probably be chosen by the churches to become their pastors.

The Bible Readers are also evangelists. They are located at some out-station & have a circle of villages which they are expected to visit monthly, or perhaps two or three times a month, to preach to the heathen — Rarely one of them may have charge of a church temporarily, in which case he would probably receive from the church the same that a pastor in his place would receive.

The enclosed form will show what it is hoped may be received for the support of the different schools at Nagor in the coming year. The High School is for a class of pupils whose parents can pay fees. Hence it is two thirds supported by the fees & Govt grants. The Girls School also receives half or more of its current expenses from donations, Govt grant, fees, & payments by the parents of pupils. The reason of the total expense of this school exceeding that of the High School is that a large number of the girls receive their board (at the rate of Rs 2.

per month, or thereabouts,) while the High School students arrange for their own board.

The village schools are mostly at mission expense. A small Gov^t grant is rec^d for some of them, but nothing to speak of in the way of fees. Mr. R. A. Hume asked the Board for only 10 months pay of his teachers in the Parner district next year: & told them they must get the other two months pay from the Gov^t grant — & that they might have the whole of the grant if it exceeded their pay for two months. But I could not adopt such a rule, as it would be very unequal in its operation in my district. The grants vary from Rs 12. to Rs 40. I therefore pay the full twelve months pay, & credit the grant in the account of schools with the mission; sometimes giving the teacher 2 to 5 Rs. if he has done well. From the grants I have provided the schools with a table, a blackboard, maps &c. which has added much to their efficiency. These schools are not yet chiefly for the education of Christian children. They are an evangelistic agency; spreading the knowledge of the truth, especially among the young.

As Mr. Hume is on his way home & may be expected to arrive as soon as this letter does, I will suggest that you ask him in regard to any other parts of the estimates which may need explanation. I think he will make all clear.

Arthur wrote me of your kind advice to seek the opinion of an eminent New York physician in regard to his wife. We are both thankful to you for this interest in his case, & I trust the means used may result in her speedy & full recovery. When he wrote last he was about to consult you in regard to his returning with Dr. Ballantine, leaving his wife in America till next year. Of course much would depend upon the advice of the physician in determining the expediency of such a step. But if the Doctor approves, I hope he may come, & thus be in his work here again six months or a year sooner than he would otherwise be.

I have the pleasure to acknowledge your letters of July 8th & July 15th — In yours of the 8th you speak of our daughter Emily, & the possibility of her coming out to India. But I had already written you fully on this subject in my letter of July 27th, so I need add nothing here. We should be greatly rejoiced if Arthur & she could both come with the Ballantines.

You will be preparing for the great meeting in Boston when this letter reaches you. May it be indeed great in the blessings which accompany it.

We are suffering - I mean the people in this part of the country are suffering - from a prolonged drought - The rainy season has been almost a failure. There is no grass even for cattle. There is still hope of late "latter rains", which may give some relief. But hard times for the poor are already initiated. The Lord help them.

Ever sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Sept. 1, 18

Recd. Oct. —

Estimates &c.,

Ahmednagar, India.
Sept. 24th 1885

Rev. Dr. Clark. For. Secy.,

My dear Sir,

Your letter of Aug. 5th was duly received. We are thankful for the grant of Rs400. asked for the Hospital room. The room is nearly ready for use, & is a valuable addition to the school arrangements.

You speak of the donation for a Book depot, & the desirableness of such donations being reported to the Prudential committee, & voted as other appropriations I do not understand whether you wish *me* to report it directly to the Committee, or whether it is sufficient to report ~~them~~ it to the Mission Treasurer, & that he send the list to Mr. Ward. This last has been our method. The donations are credited in our accounts at the end of the year, as so much cash recd from the mission Treasury. And the Treasurer, I presume, reports to Mr. Ward, as I often see among the receipts of the Board donations acknowledged from friends of the Marathi Mission. I do not know as there is any objection to such sums also being voted on by the Prudential Committee, if they are careful to vote aye as to the use of them! If they should vote nay, I should be under the necessity of returning the money to the donor, as it would not be right to divert a donation for a special object to the general purposes of the mission. I have not moved in this matter without the sanction of the mission. In our Minutes of Oct. 1882, Res. 12. reads, "that Brn Bissell & Smith be a Committee to see what arrangements can be made for a Tract & Book Depot at Ahmednagar" - In Oct. 1884. Res. 5. Bro. R. A. Hume was added to the Committee. But for want of funds nothing had been done, till suddenly this Rs1000, was recd without writing a letter, or even asking it - Now we think it right to begin the work - A good site is a great thing for such a Depot, & just now we are delaying with the hope of securing such a site at a reasonable figure - It is offered for Rs800. but should not cost more than half that sum. I suppose the American Tract Soc. does not make appropriations for buildings. I mean to ask them, if the mission approves, for a grant of $250. to purchase a stock of books for the first furnishing of the depot. But we must try & secure the building without their help.

We are thankful that Arthur's wife is so well that he anticipates returning with Dr. Ballantine this fall. I hope his wife will also recover, so that it will be quite safe for her to return next year. We expect to hear in a few days what our daughter Emily has decided about coming out with Arthur.

Since I wrote you on the 7th inst. we have had bountiful rains, which have entirely changed the outlook for the coming season. We praise the Lord for this blessing & help!

Very Sincerely Yours
L. Bissell.

ld be consulted

Rev. L. Bissell,

Ahmednagar, Sept. 24/85,

Rec'd Oct. 24.

Ac.

✓

Ahmednagar, 18th Nov. 1885.

The Rev. Dr. Clark
Foreign Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Enclosed I send you a copy of the minutes of our mission meeting which closed on the 2d instant. This is a week or two later than I usually forward the minutes, but illness a part of the time, & a pressure of other work have prevented my getting them ready sooner. A few only of the Resolutions forwarded will need an explanation.

Resns 1. 2. & 3. will be readily understood.
" 4. & 5. – The 4th is in accordance with our rules – 5th. The young man passed a good examination, but having had little experience as a preacher, he is tried another year before he is advanced.
Resns 6. & 7. explain themselves.
" 8. & 9. are also intelligible.
" 10. 11. & 12. also refer to the Dnyanodaya – The excellent Editor of our ~~native~~ vernacular paper has finished his work. Unhappily

he left his family burdened with a heavy debt. This was caused not so much by his own carelessness, as by the lack of judgement & economical management in his wife. No part of this debt is to be paid by the mission. The sum asked for next year with the allowance continued to the end of this year, make a grant of six months of his pay for the benefit of his family. This is not too much for one who has done such long & faithful service in connection with the mission. It will be carefully paid in small sums, so as to make the most of it in helping the family.

Res. 12 seeks to provide another editor for the Marathi work of the Dnanodaya.

Res. 13 – We hoped that Shāhu Modak would be willing to undertake this work, but he decides, or his father decides for him, that the young man must not leave home within a year, & so the plan falls through.

Resns 14 & 15 are plain without comment.

Res. 16 – The effort in this plan is to bring the Dispensary gradually upon a self-supporting basis, & still retain such a hold upon the property, & such influence over the

Catechist as will keep them permanently helpful to the missionary work.

Resns 17. to 21. are in the line of our regular work.

NB

Resns 22. 23. 25. & 26. are requests for special grants, amounting in the aggregate to Rs 2045. At the time of preparing our estimates, we cannot anticipate all our wants for the coming year; tho' we try to do so as far as possible. Bro. Winsor's best preacher has been called to become pastor of a church in another district, & hence he greatly needs another man – The girls of the school at Nagar are two crowded in their dormitories for comfort or health; & as the school grows this difficulty is the more felt. Hence the need of more accommodations. So also the additions mentioned in Res. 25 are needed in connection with the High School. And the new school house at Dahitna is urgently needed by both teacher & pupils. These items therefore are not brought forward without a valid reason in each case.

Res. 31 – I think this is the only other Resolution which needs remark. In May 1882 the mission appointed Trustees to hold the property of the Board in the Marathi country. (See Res. 30. in Minutes of Mission meeting May 1882.) "Resd that Rev. H. J. Bruce, Rev. E. S. Hume, & Rev. L. S. Gates be appointed Trustees to hold the real estate & other property of the mission, subject to the approval of the Prudential Committee of the American Board." When Bro. Hume was recently arranging for the sale of the "Old Press buildings" at Byculla, the Bombay lawyers would not accept a title deed executed by the Trustees of the mission, because we could not show that their appointment had been approved by the Prudential Committee. I searched through the file of letters of the last three years, but could find no reference to this action of the mission, & hence the sale of the Press buildings for Rs 30.000 – a very favorable offer – was not effected, as we could not give a legal title to the purchaser. Will you call the attention of the Prudential Committee to this matter, & secure from them as soon as convenient, an approval of this appointment of Trustees

P. Cor

of the mission to hold & dispose of the property of the Board in the Marathi country. A legal document should be sent in such form as to legalize the action of the Trustees appointed by the mission — not simply the action of the three persons named in the above resolution, but of others who may be appointed in their place. Bro. Harding is now trustee in the place of Bro. Bruce. It would be well also if the paper could have a retrospective force, legalizing the action of ~~the action of~~ the Trustees since their appointment; as they have already bought or sold several pieces of property belonging to the Board. The scrutiny of some lawyer in years to come may detect the fact that this action of the Trustees occurred before their appointment had been approved by the Prudential Committee; & he might argue that it had no legal force.

The looking after these secular matters, in connection with the transfer of mission property to the Trustees, has taken a good many hours of my time in the past two years,

+ I have rather grudgingly bestowed so much attention upon them. But it seemed necessary in a certain sense. Age + long continued work are telling upon me somewhat, + I have the impression that I should strongly advise another in my position to take a vacation, or expect a break-down. I hope the opportunity may appear for us to go "apart + rest awhile", tho' we cannot yet see just how it will come.

Nov. 19th 85

Today we receive the American mail of a month ago, giving accounts of the meeting of the Board in Boston, + also of the expected sailing of Dr. + Mrs. Ballantine + our children on the 24th ult. For all this we thank God + take courage—

With Chrisn love to you + others at the Rooms

Ever sincerely yours,

L. Bissell

Ahmednagar, Nov. 18, '85.
Rec'd Dec. 21.

Ahmednagar
31st Dec 1885

Rev. Dr. Clark
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of Nov. 11th 85 giving us the appropriations for 1886, was Recd on the 16th inst. & caused general rejoicing & thanksgiving. Our plans for work in the coming year can now be carried out, so far as they depended on the regular appropriations for success. Your suggestion in regard to the employment of good men will be regarded, & indeed we are always trying to improve the character & efficiency of our native agents, as well as to increase the number of them. We are perhaps more reluctant to give up an out-station which has been occupied for several years, than to dismiss an unsatisfactory agent. We assume that there will be fruit if the work is earnestly & faithfully carried on, & if we do not see the desired results we perhaps attribute it to something else than the natural unfruitfulness of the place, & change the laborers or methods of work — But we would not continue to occupy a place which gave no promise of fruit.

Your letter of Nov. 4th in regard to Arthur, & the cause of his detention, was in some way delayed, & did not reach us till last week. We had received the principal facts in the case from Arthur himself, & from Mr. Hume. I need not say what a sad disappointment it was to us that he failed at the last moment to come with the others. You will see from our Act. Minutes that the Southern Dist. was put in his care after the 1st of January. I cannot look after it, and go through it as the work requires some one to do; nor is there any other missionary ~~one~~ who can. But the work here is the Lords, & He will know how to provide for it. We look to him constantly for help, & for such helpers as He shall choose to bring.

That it was a great mistake for Arthur to make such remarks at the meeting of the Board is doubtless now apparent to him as well as to his friends. How far this detention was the cause of the return of his wife's malady it is impossible to say. We felt when we heard that he was taking her to Boston that it was a mistake. Before she was fully recovered, she should not have been subjected to such a strain upon her nervous system as the excitement attending a meeting of the Board causes. But this is being wise after the event. We can now only pray that ~~the~~ by the blessing of God upon the care & treatment she receives at Hartford, she may be saved from prolonged mental derangement, & may be speedily restored to her friends. Until this is realized it is unnecessary to say anything in regard to Arthur's return to India. We appreciate your kindness to him, & sympathy with us in this trial The past year has brought us much of sorrow, but the same good & wise Father has been with us, & will be to the end of our course.

Emily reached Bombay with Dr. & Mrs. Ballantine on the 14th inst.

It is a great comfort to have her with us, & seemingly so well. Many of her native friends she can call by name without an introduction, & they are delighted to hear her speak the Marathi after nearly ten years absence. She is reading with the Pundit daily, & hearing a class in the Station school.

With grateful hearts for the many mercies of the year, even in the midst of trial, & thanking you for your kind letter, & unitedly wishing you a "happy new year," we end our 1885.—

Ever sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell,
Ahmednagar, Dec. 31, /85.
Rec'd Feb. 1, /86.

Byculla. Bombay.
5th March 1886.

Rev. Dr. Clark. Secy.

My dear Sir.

Dr. Fairbank has written you of my illness in January, & the decision of the Doctors & the Mission that I take a sea voyage & rest for some months - I have not gained as fast as I hoped to in the last month - There have been considerable necessary care & work, tho' not one fourth of what there would have been if Mrs. Bissell were to come with me, & it were necessary to break up our home. I am thankful to be well enough to undertake the voyage without her, & thus save her the trouble & care of disposing of our furniture, & packing for a voyage: & also the suffering she always meets with on the sea. This aside from the fact that there was no one who could well take charge of the work in my district & at Nagar - She will look after the schools, teachers, & preachers, & keep them at their work, & thus as far as possible minimize the loss arising from my departure. The kind providence which brought our Emily to us just before my illness & absence, makes it much easier to carry out this plan – She will be company & help to her mother, & I feel much more ready to leave them both together than I should to leave my wife alone.

My head will not allow me to write or even read very much, & I must leave the rest to be told after my arrival; when I hope to be much stronger –

With christian regards from us both,

Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

P.S. Your letter of Jan. 25th has just come, forwarded from Nagar – Thanks for the special grants allowed by the Prudential Committee. They will be very helpful to those asking for them –

I cannot now reply to the ~~other~~ questions in your letter. If (D.V.) I am permitted to see you, I will give any explanations in my power if you will repeat the inquiries.
Yrs. L. B.

P.S. 2d – We are to sail tomorrow on the Anchor Line steamer, Belgravia, which is expected to reach Liverpool in 4 weeks. I do not expect to delay in England — The Gates of our mission, Sholapur. The Smiths & Mr. Hitchcock of Ceylon, & Mr. Goheen & family of the Pres. mission, Kolhapur are to go on the Belgravia also — So I have good company — We ticket thro' to New York for Rs 525. each, or about $183.75 as exchange now is. L.B.

[illegible],

Byculla, Mar. 5, 1886,

Rec'd Apr. 12.

P. C.

Noted 183/6

15 Home Place, New Haven
24th April 1886

Rev. Dr. Clark,
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir,

I recd. you note of yesterday this morning, & am grateful for the kind words with which you welcome me to the home-land. I have been gaining right along since the first week of the voyage — & I have no doubt that the sea was the very best medicine I could have taken. I shall need to label myself "invalid", or nobody will recognize me as belonging to that fraternity. I trust I am truly thankful for the blessing of returning health & strength, & I hope before the end of the year they will be put to good use again in the Marathi mission field.

Arthur as you suggest is thinking of undertaking the work offered by a church on one of the Sandwich Islands, & will probably be leaving within ten days — On this account, I may not come to Boston so soon as I otherwise would have come. But I hope to see you the first week in May, & to speak with you on several matters connected with our mission work.

As to plans for myself, I think after a week or two in Boston, Amherst, & vicinity, I would like to go west to Milan, Ohio. I have two sisters living together there who offer me quiet & rest with themselves in their rural home. This would be an inexpensive plan, & from there I could in the course of the summer visit my three sons in Michigan, & daughter in St. Louis. I must (D.V.) see these dear ones now that I am providentially brought home; for humanly speaking it is not probable that I shall see them again after my return to India.

But more of this & other matters when I see you.

Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

P. S. In regard to Arthur I wish to say a few words, as I may not see you till after he has left the country. I had hoped to find his wife fully restored to health, as very favorable accounts reached me at Liverpool. But though she is now living at home, & seems cheerful & natural, yet I doubt if it would be wise to take her to India. Her nervous system has received a severe shock, & under trying circumstances in a tropical climate like the Deccan in India, I fear there might be a return of her troubles.

Aside therefore from Arthur's relations with the Prudential Committee, I think it is well that he should accept this position on the Sandwich Islands for his wife's sake - as physicians think it would be the most favorable possible for her health -

But the expense of reaching the Islands & beginning work there, will be as estimated, not less than $300. or $350. & he has nothing in hand - I have nothing with which to help him, or I would gladly do it - The expense of his detention at Suez (about £18.) was not allowed by the Board — They said the Anchor Line Co. should refund him that. But when application was made to the Co. they refused to grant any compensation for the detention. They said it was a *favor* that a passenger was allowed to come on in another ship of their line, when for any reason he had failed to make his connection with the first. And what they granted as a *favor* could not be claimed as a *right*. To save Arthur's being in debt I paid the sum myself to the mission, & he has not been able to return it.

Arthur has no claim for regard on account of long service, but he has made honest effort in the direction of labor, & has failed thro' a painful trial, the illness of his wife. How far this fact should receive the consideration of the Committee I am unable to say — They doubtless have precedents to guide them, & if not they are wise enough to establish a precedent.

Excuse a father's solicitude — Yrs. L.B.

P.S.

New Haven, Apr. 24, 1886,

Rec'd Apr. 26.

15 Home Place
New Haven. Ct.

Rev. Dr. Clark
May 1st '86
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Your letter of the 28th was received yesterday – I have read the part referring to our meeting you next Wednesday to Mr. Hume, & we will both leave here (D.V.) next Tuesday morning, & reach Boston a little after noon – I have also sent a post card to Mr. Gates, asking him to be there Wednesday –

I allowed Arthur to read your letter, that he might see how his action appeared to you, & he said he would write you before leaving yesterday – On account of his unpleasant relations with the Prudential Committee, he had not expected any further assistance from them – & I think he intends to repay any grant which may be made him. But there is a measure of uncertainty about it, as there is no agreement on the part of the church to pay his expenses out to the Islands.

He left on the boat last evening, his wife's father, Mr. Gower, accompanying them to New York. His wife has appeared more natural, more like her former self, in the last two weeks than ever before since her return from India. I trust that the favorable climate of Maui, by the blessing of God, may completely restore her health.

Anticipating much pleasure in meeting you again,

Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

New Haven, May 1, '86.
Rec'd May 3.

at President Greenough's
Amherst. Mass.
20th May 1886.

Rev. Dr Clark,
Secretary of the Amer. Board

My dear Sir,

Your letter of the 11th inst. was recd after a few days delay, as I did not reach Amherst till the 15th. In it you communicate the action of the Prudential Committee with reference to the grant for Dwight this year, the allowance for Emily at Ahmednagar, & also with regard to Julia going out for three years, & returning at her own expense, at the close of that period, if she shall then wish to do so in order to study medicine. These items are all very satisfactory, & I now confidently anticipate that Julia will accompany me on my return, provided the mission in their meeting this month indicate their wish for two young ladies to take charge of the Girls School at Ahmednagar. We may learn what the action of the mission is before the end of June.

Your letter of the 18th instant, was recd yesterday. I am somewhat embarrassed in replying to it, for I should love to urge without hesitation that those who have been our co-laborers in years past might again join us if the way is open. But in the case of Mr. & Mrs. Atkinson I should have misgiving in regard to their health, especially Mrs. A's., tho' she may have been pretty well in this country.

Then I think they were but eight years in India, & after ten years in this country using only English, & at the age of 50 years I fear he must in a great measure have lost the Marathi, in which he never became very fluent. If therefore I should say, I think it well to send them out, it would be because younger men, & those likely to continue longer in the work are not to be found, & we are hard pressed for laborers. I may add that I am confident some members of the mission in India would hesitate to ask that they should X be again sent out to the mission. Sorry

that I cannot speak more assuringly,
but bound to be truthful in the first place,
I send this brief reply.

I hope to see the Rev. Mr. Coolidge
& wife here tomorrow. Mr. Coolidge you may
remember is the father of the young lady
of Julia's class in Wellesley, who was willing
to offer herself to the Board for work in
the Marathi mission, & who, Miss Freeman
thought, was admirably fitted to be useful
there.

I have been very pleasantly entertained
here at Pres. Greenough's — Mrs. G. is a cousin
of the Ballantines of our mission — & loves
all good missionaries. I expect to go to
Deerfield tomorrow, & after the ordination on
the 27th, my address will be

Milan, Ohio.

Very sincerely yours.

L. Bissell

L. Arnold D.D.

Amherst Mass

May 20. 1886

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(Address Milan, Ohio.)
Caro, Mich.
10th July 1886

Rev. Dr. Clark, Secretary.
Congl. House, Boston.

My dear Sir,

Since leaving New England I have been visiting my kindred in Ohio, Mo., & Mich. — & am now with my oldest son, who is pastor of the Pres. church at this place. His brother Frank is acting pastor of the Congl. Church at Mt. Pleasant, 80 miles west of here — I am spending a couple of weeks here with these boys, & am happy to find them, apparently, trying to do good work for the Master. I have spoken every Sabbath but one since I was in Boston. It is not easy to decline to speak when thus visiting with friends, & I do not think the effort is hurtful to my health. I am still feeling very well, & I hope consolidating my physical gains for future use in India.

Dr. Fairbank wrote me that he had sent you the copy of the minutes of the May meeting, including the action of the mission with reference to the Girls School — It appears that Miss Hume & Emily were asked to take charge of the school when Miss Fairbank should leave it — which Dr. Fairbank writes me that she will do next October. This action was taken before they heard that Julia had any thought of returning with me, to have charge of the school with her sister Emily — & if Miss Hume is pleased with the present arrangement, & wd. like to carry it out, there would seem to be no call for Julia to go out with me this year. We shall probably hear from them by the end of this month, in reply to our letters sent after conference with you in May.

Mr. C. S. Hume writes me that they are feeling very much the need of reinforcements in Bombay — & it is true that they greatly need them. But it seems difficult to find acceptable men who are ready to go. "The Lord of the harvest", however, can find them, & send them forth. We must look to Him for help —

Most Sincerely Yours
L. Bissell

L. Bissell, [illegible]
July 10. 1886

Milan, Ohio
6th Augt 1886

Rev. Dr. Clark.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.
My dear Sir.

Your note of Sept. 3d was recd on the 4th. I am glad of the appointment of Julia for three years, & trust she will make herself useful in the Marathi mission. I think it is also better for her health after ten years of continuous study, than it would be to go right on studying three or four years longer.

I would like to sail somewhere about the 9th to 16th of October; & am writing to Mr. Ward today to ask about a steamer from Boston at that time. Miss Fanny Scudder, daughter of Dr. Wm Scudder of the Arcot Mission, is to accompany us, & will be good company for Julia. I wish to spend as little time as possible in England, & shall embrace the first favorable opportunity to go on from

Liverpool or London to Bombay.

I should enjoy very much, being present at the farewell meeting on the 15th inst. but I have an engagement at Clyde on the 14th & 15th — to meet the Huron Presbytery, by which I was ordained, & of which I am still a member — If I do not sail before the 12th of Oct. or thereabouts, it would be in season if I did not reach Boston till the 24th of this month. Would that be too late to see you & others who are to attend the meeting of the Board at Des Moines? If so, I must try to come a few days earlier.

I shall not need very much for refit, but my traveling expenses have been ~~very~~ pretty heavy. I should be glad if the Committee would grant me $100. for traveling & refit. With this I can get on comfortably.

The last news from my wife & Emily, to date July 26th, was good — & the rainy season was very favorable. The copious rains were almost unprecedented.

Hoping to see you soon.

Very Sincerely yours

L. Bissell

P. S. Some of my friends say that I (or ask if I am not) am making a mistake in returning to India so soon - But the opinion is given on general grounds, not with reference to anything in my own case. I have not had a sick day since I reached America - now 4½ months. I have lost nothing in weight during the summer, & I think that with another three months, including the sea voyage, I shall be in good condition for work. I have some doubt whether at my age (63) the cold of New England or Ohio in winter would be of much use to me; & I have no wish to try the experiment. I think the doctors will pass me for another term in India, & I am thankful that the Master permits me to return in such good health.

Yrs. L. B.

Rev. L. Bissell

Milan, O., Aug. 6, 1886.

Rec'd Sept. 8

5

Milan. Ohio.
7th Aug. 1886

Rev. Dr. Clark, Secretary
My dear Sir.

Your kind letter of July 21st was duly recd. I returned to this place three days ago, after a brief visit with each of my four children who are west of this; & I have bid them goodbye for another indefinite period, & not unlikely for the rest of my life.

It is right that the matter of Emily's appointment should be decided in the usual way. Though not as strong & vigorous as her sister Julia, she has enjoyed comfortable health the past two or three years, & is now associated with Miss Fairbank in the Girls school at Ahmednagar — & is doing several hours work daily.

I believe Julia has sent in her offer to the Board, & if accepted, she is expecting to return with me to India in Oct. or November — I hope nothing unfavorable will occur to prevent our carrying out this plan.

I do not know in regard to finding any young man in the ministry who would be ready to exchange his work for the foreign field. I think there are perhaps fewer such men at the West than in New England. But I will keep your suggestion in mind, & be on the lookout for such a man. I hope to visit Oberlin in the course of a month or six weeks, & will look around the Institution there. But it is vacation, & most of the Students are away from the Seminary.

I do not propose to attend the meeting of the Board at Des Moines — Mr Gates is expecting to attend, & can represent the Maratha mission. The additional travel & excitement would not be favorable to health just before sailing — I hope I may get away about the 10th of Oct. My health continues good.

With affectionate regards
Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Milan Ohio
Aug. 7. '86

Milan. Ohio.
7th Sept. 1886.

Rev. Dr. Clark.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Rev. R. A. Hume of our mission in a recent letter to me writes that he sent a statement to you not long since, in which he had occasion to say that his missionary associates & the native Christians earnestly desire his return to India: & he inquires if so far as I know, he was warranted in making such a statement. I have no hesitation in saying that it is *my earnest desire & prayer* that he may return, & resume the work which he carried on so efficiently up to the time of his leaving. I confidently believe that every member of the Marathi mission would say the same thing; & that the native Christians also desire that Mr. Hume may return; & that both they & the missionaries consider his labors in the mission of great value.

I may add that the greatly reduced

state of the mission, & the failure to secure re-inforcements, emphasize strongly the importance of the return of all its absent members whose health is restored, & whose circumstances admit of their returning.

Very Sincerely yours

L. Bissell

L. Bissell

Feb. 7 1886

R. a. Hume

Eng.

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Schaftesbury Hotel -
Liverpool. Oct. 30: 1886

L. S. Ward Esq., Treasurer.

My dear Sir,

We had a fine passage in the Furnessia, & landed at Greenock, for Glasgow Tuesday morning, just ten days after we left New York - The Atlantic was on its best behavior, & gave us no storms or rough weather; & neither of our party was sea-sick any part of the way.

I called at the office of Messrs. Henderson Bros. in Glasgow, & obtained tickets for Bombay by the Nubia, which is to sail from this port on the 3d of Nov. as advertised. Our heavy luggage was transferred directly to the Nubia, after being passed at the Custom House, with almost no expense to us. The Company also gave us Railway tickets from Glasgow to this place. So the expenses of transfer from one Str. to the other were reduced to a minimum.

I drew $30. from Mr. Kincaid in New York, which just covered the expenses of Julia & myself from Boston to N.Y. the stay in the City, & the expense of embarkation. There may be some small bills of Julia or myself left unpaid in Boston. If so they can be reported to our mission Treasr in India.

Dr Chamberlain whom I met in N.Y. said he had sent you a draft for $250. to pay back the sum you advanced for the passage of Miss Scudder. I trust this was recd all right. He also supplied me with funds for her expenses in Eng. &c. We hope to reach Bombay by the 1st to 3d of December –

Very truly yours
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell
Nov. 9. '76.
Accounts

✓ Clark Waggoner Esq
Toledo. Ohio.

✓ Rev. Dr. E. Bushnell
Adelbert Coll.
Cleveland. Ohio.

✓ Rev. W. L. Swan
Milan. Ohio.

If after receiving this you will send me a line informing me how many you recd, I will thank you — & if no more than the first four reached you, I may try again — pamphlets sent to such a distance often are lost thro' insecure packing —

When I sent letters from America to Ahmednagar, I always put on Bombay — that is well known, & prevents their straying to other parts of the world —

I am back in my work. & happy to be here — with ki[illegible] regards
very tru[illegible] yours
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell

Ahmednagar
12th Jan. 1887

Rec'd Feb. 14.

My dear Mr. Chapin

ans'd Feb. 15.

Your letter of Oct. 29th came to me this week via Australia, a route which was not conducive to your receiving a speedy answer. However to make the best of a bad beginning, I send you this by the first mail which leaves after getting your letter.

And first I thank you for not sending the parcel after me to India. I ordered a dozen of the pamphlets in season to receive them before I should leave America — But by somebody's neglect they did not reach Boston till two weeks after I had left — I hope you received two more parcels containing four each, & have a dozen to distribute — if so, please send them as I have given addresses on the next page. If you have only the four of which you wrote, it will be a light matter to dispose of them to the first four mentioned — If you have more, please forward them to the others in the order named — There will be no "price" but the postage, which I will let you arrange. The pamphlets cost very little here, as Dr. Murdoch, the author, prepared it to do good, not to get money — & the price is below cost — Will you write on the cover "from L. Bissell," & some of them will see I have kept my promise to send one.

✓ One to Dr Clark.

One to Pres. Seelye
✓ of Amherst Coll.

one D. M. Richardson Esqr
✓ Detroit. Mich.-

✓+ one to yourself -

Rev. F. A. Bissell
✓ Mt. Pleasant. Mich.
Rev. A. D. Bissell
✓ Wailuku. Maui.
Hawaian Islands.
Rev. Dr. Humphrey. Sec.
✓ No 151 Washington St.
Chicago. Ill.
Rev. P. H. ~~Mcomb~~ McComb
✓ Webster Groves. Mo.

Miss Freeman
✓ Presi[illegible]t of Wellesley Coll.
Wellesley, Mass.

Rev. Dr. Clark.
Secretary, A. B.
My dear Sir.

much grieved to l
illness after the me
but recent news is
& I trust you may befor
to resume a part of
at the mission roo
Dr. Alden ha
sending the appro
sion for 1887 — & I
could see their way
was in the regular
were some items sen
last October, whic
will be able to gra
Mr. Harding will a
you in regard to
I have alrea
of our prosperous

Ahmednagar.
Bombay, India.
12th Jan'y 1887

B. C. F. M.
r.

We have been
learn of your severe
meeting of the Board,
is more encouraging.
fore this time be able
at least of your work
ons.

has written us, (Nov. 13th)
propriations of our mis-
I am thankful they
ay to grant us all that
ar ~~appropriations~~ estimates. There
sent home by the mission
hich I hope the Committee
grant after a few months.
ll doubtless have written
them.

eady written to Mr. Ward
voyage & safe arrival

at Bombay Dec. 4th. The people gave us a very warm greeting on our reaching Ahmednagar; & I only pray that our coming may signify as much for the work here as their congratulations would indicate. It has seemed very natural for me to step into my former place in the home & the mission work, & I am thankful to bring to it a new supply of health & vigor.

Julia found that she knew enough of the language to be able to converse with the people, & though she is studying with a pundit to perfect herself in the grammar & literature of the Marathi, she is doing something also to assist in teaching. It will be very easy for her to work in with her mother & sister, & find profitable work for all the time & strength she can spare.

It is not for me to report at length in regard to the work in these districts the past year. But if they have missed something by my absence, it has still been vastly better for them than if both of us had been withdrawn, & the work had been left to the general oversight of some missionary ~~one~~ already overburdened by his own appropriate labors. The preachers have been kept to their work & monthly reports; the seventeen schools have been continued in operation, & most of them have done some good work; the Bible women have been looked after & instructed; & all have felt the stimulus of knowing that they were cared for, & if they did well it was appreciated, while if they neglected their work it would be noticed & rebuked. Thus I find the native agents in much better condition than if the field had been left without my wife's superintendence. It has been a hard year for her, but she has been sustained, & at the close of the year is in good health.

I do not find my impressions of the work much changed by another visit to America. It has always in my mind been growing in dignity & importance ever since I have been connected with it. And the triumph of gospel truth seems to me more & more assured. I am thankful to be here again after only nine months absence, & having gained more than in previous furloughs of twice the length. I have never before had such a restful time since I began my life-work. Looking at all the surroundings with which I enter upon this new year, I feel that the past year has by no means been lost time.

I hope the Prudential Committee will be able to see their way to send Mr. Hume back here before long. I do believe he has the sense & grace not to preach the post mortem probation doctrine here - & especially not to make it harmfully prominent. I do not think it needful to write much to you, for I know you would be glad to see him allowed to return. His brother in Bombay & his family ought to be allowed to take a furlough without delay - Could not R. A. Hume be allowed to come & relieve his brother if not sent to the Theol. Seminary at Ahmednagar? I am utilizing the best native agents as far as I can, in accordance with your suggestion that I should do so. But there is no one among them who is able to take the place of Instructor in the Theological

Seminary except Pastor Modak, who is now in feeble health. Missionaries must do the Theol. teaching for sometime to come.

We are just starting out in tents, & hope to do some good work before the cold season is past –

With Christian love
Ever sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell 5

Ahmednagar, Jan. 12, '87

Rec'd Feb. 14.

Ack ✓

Ahmednagar, Bombay.
India. 2d Mch. 1887

Rev. Dr. Clark.
Secretary A.B.C.F.M.

My dear Sir.

I am reminded by my date that it is just a year since I left India for a brief visit to the home-land — not knowing but it might be the last I should see of India & its people; of the Maratha mission & the work with which I had been identified for thirty five years. But it has been the good pleasure of the Master to permit me to make my visit home; to look in the faces of dear children & other kindred & Christian friends; to feel the fresh stimulus of returning health from the sea voyage & air of my native land; & to return to my place in the mission field, all within the brief space of nine months. And now in the last three months of this eventful year I have visited on tours many of the old places where we had formerly camped, & again preached to the people the blessed gospel of peace & salvation.

My wife with a couple of Bible women accompanied me on these tours, & met with the women while the native preachers & I went to the men. In two of the villages there was quite an interest awakened among the Mángs. I had met them before, & they then said they were ready to confess Christ. Five men & three women in one village came forward & were baptized, & then their five children were consecrated to the same Savior. The meeting was held in the open air, a clean place having been swept in the shade of a tree & house, & some of the coarse rugs were spread on the ground for the people to sit upon. No one made any disturbance, tho' now & then some one wd speak in a low tone to the one sitting next him – not having learned "to whisper" to avoid noise. One man came marching through the audience room with a load of sheaves of grain on his head, (as the people were seated on both sides of a path.) But no one seemed to think of this as any interruption, & it did not divert the attention of the people as it might do if ~~one~~ a man with such a burden should pass up thro' the broad aisle of a church in Boston during the service.

Five or six miles from this first village we met another company of this same class of people; & there on the second day of our stay, thirteen adults & eleven children were baptized into "the Name which is above every name". Several others gave their names as candidates for baptism, & I am confident will soon come forward. One of the women said after her baptism. "I have been waiting for this the last two years." How many more hearts may be longing for this salvation we know not. One of the women in this second company had attracted my notice by her earnest attention & intelligent looks, & I learned afterwards that when a little girl she had attended one of our village schools & learned to read.

"The Pátil (headman) of this last village was very friendly, & invited us to a clean shady spot to hold the service, & sat himself listening to its close - He also urged that if a school house was to be provided for the children of the Christians, it should be within the limits of the village, & then the children of the higher classes could also attend. Two of those baptized at the first village came to this second service.

It is remarkable that all the Mángs in these two villages, numbering perhaps 30 or 35 families, have the same family name Wághmáre, meaning tiger-slayer. Perhaps in some past generation (no one can say how distant) one of their ancestors had distinguished himself as "a mighty hunter", & won this surname for himself & all his descendants. But no tradition even hints who this ancestor was. The Mángs are one of the classes who are supposed to belong to the aboriginal races of India, before the advent of the Aryans. I suggested to them that as there was no further need of exploits in the line of tiger-killing in this part of India, they should direct their energies to the destruction of every form of Satanic & sinful sway; & they declared that they would enter upon this warfare. We hope that many volunteers will be found to join them in this struggle; & their ultimate triumph will not be doubtful!

In the service of Christ,
Ever sincerely yours,
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell, D.D.,
Ahmednagar, Mar. 2, 1887,
Rec'd April 4.

Ahmednagar, India.
May 10th 1887.

Rev. Dr. Clark.
Secretary A.B.C.F.M.

My dear Sir.

I enclose a copy of the statistics of our mission for the current year, following the order given in the "Tabular view" contained in the annual Report of the Board. Altho' all our statistics are given in the tables contained in the Report of the Mission sent you this month, yet it might be difficult to decide, especially under the head of "Education", just how to distribute the numbers in the different columns.

I date Ahmednagar as usual, but we are at the Health Station: our Mission meeting is to commence tomorrow, & I shall be sending you the minutes in a few weeks. All the members of the mission are enjoying a comfortable measure of health at present. Mr. & Mrs. Smith are rejoicing in the gift of a daughter, born on the 3^d inst. – their first child.

Dr. Fairbank has come from the Pulney Hills to attend this meeting of the mission.

With Christian affection.
Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Ahmednagar, May 10, 1887,
Rec'd June 13.

Ahmednagar. India
10th June 1887.

Rev. Dr. Clark
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

I forward you herewith a copy of the minutes of our mission meeting, held at Mahableshwar last month; & also a copy of our Estimates for 1888 prepared at the meeting. The meeting was on the whole a very pleasant & harmonious one. there being no vexatious questions before us to lead to difference of opinion, & heated discussions.

In regard to the Resolutions passed at the meeting, I have already written you of the first two, in my letter of May 30th, posted the same day that I replied to your telegram, & I need not repeat what I then said. Of the others I will notice those which may need some explanation.

Res. 3d - The mission felt that they knew too little of Dr. Condict's work, & the amount of her receipts to enable them to vote intelligently in regard to a renewal of the grant she now receiver, for another year. They therefore requested the Treasurer to send her a letter making some inquiries on these points.

Res. 4. will explain itself, also Res 10. & I trust both will be satisfactory.

Res. 5. Emily & Julia have been dependent in part upon our conveyance, occasionally hiring for a day when we were away — But in this way they get much less use of the conveyance for the money expended than if they have one of their own. Regular exercise in the open air is essential to health, & tho' walking is sometimes pleasant, often it is unsafe to venture out without a tangá or carriage. Emily has not received any part of the outfit allowance. When she was about to come out to us, I sent her $100 thro' Mr. Ward, to enable her to provide some clothing & other necessary articles. I do not care to receive that back, but she needs something more to purchase furniture, & perhaps with Julia a conveyance.

Res. 6. The letter of Bro. Abbott will doubtless give you all the information needed in regard to the subject of this resolution. Altho' we feel it very desirable to secure these new premises, yet some of us would not have voted to ask the grant at this time were it not that the sale of property in Bombay makes it comparatively easy to meet the great expense. It is a transfer of our chapel to a much more favorable position for our work, without making a heavy draft on the home treasury of the Board.

Res 7. & 8. I shall leave it to Bro. Smith to write you fully in regard to these Educational matters. His Excellency, Lord Reay, received us very cordially, & showed his full sympathy with the work in our Institution. But the Bombay Government has recently changed its attitude, somewhat, towards the Higher educational work — declining to assist New Colleges as heretofore, & doing more proportionately for the education of the education of the masses. This is no doubt a movement in the right direction, but we would like our College to be included in the list of "aided institutions" before the rule is applied.

Res. 9. + 16 – The present Theol. Class has had three terms of study in three successive years, '83, '84, + '85 – Last year both Mr. Hume + myself being away, the class was not called together. This year Mr. Modak is very feeble, + it is uncertain whether he will be able to give even one lecture a day. But it was thought best to give the class their fourth term of study this year, making the best arrangements we can for their instruction. I have two good native brethren, one an ordained evangelist, + the other a licentiate, to assist me in the care of the schools + in the evangelistic work of the Kolgav district. This work I have told them they must look after, while I give my strength chiefly to the instruction of the Theol. Class.

Res. 11. introduces the principal subject of consideration at our meeting, namely, the preparation of our Estimates for 1888 – The division of these into two parts, as suggested in the Resolution, seemed necessary, as the sum assigned for "general work" by the Prudential Committee was distinct from the allowances for missionaries. The amount under each division, & the total are given in Res. 30 — We were not sure that we had drawn the line just where you did in allowing for our "General work in 1888. $15000. At 36 cents the rupee, (which is about the present value,) this would give us Rs 41.666 for our "General work". This sum is about Rs 3.300 less than our Estimates for General work sent a year ago, & granted in our appropriations for this year. But we gathered from your letter (of Feb. 28:87.) that it was not the purpose of the Prudential Committee to reduce our appropriations for "General work below the sum allowed for this year. You remark in that letter, "the missions are quite right in desiring that there be little or no variation in the sums allowed for the general work, as variations there, if in the form of reductions, seriously cripple your plans & efforts." That parenthetic clause, "_if in the form of reductions_", should be strongly emphasized — A variation in the opposite direction, of moderate increase, would not embarrass us in the least! Indeed, if we have due regard to the needs of our field, it is hardly possible to send our Estimates year after year without a moderate increase. Our work has advanced to that stage in which the people are very accessible, & calls & openings are beckoning ~~to~~ us in all directions. And yet, we are not at the stage in which the people themselves will largely support the work. Our larger districts are not half as fully occupied as we wish they were — & as they might be in many parts, if we had more good men & the means to employ them. The churches which send us here must not require us to stand & look at these favorable openings, & hear these urgent calls unmoved. It is too much for sanctified human nature to endure. The least we can do is to pass on the Macedonian cry to the children of God in favored Christian lands. Oh that they knew in this their day the glorious work & opportunity which the Lord has given them! And the good men who give half a million or a million to found a University in the midst of a people who hardly know what to do with it; Oh that they knew what such a sum might accomplish for the glory of Christ, if judiciously ~~distributed~~ used in a thousand towns & villages, supplying with a school & a little chapel multitudes that have not yet learned "the first principles of the oracles of God"!

But I was explaining why our estimates are apt to increase. If the work advances, it cannot be otherwise for a time than that there should be a gradual increase of expenditure. There will be new communities of Christians to be supplied with instruction, & new out-stations among the heathen which must be occupied by a teacher or preacher, or both. If a missionary occupies a new district, he needs at least a small corps of native agents to accompany, & work with him. To send him forth alone is to place him under all the disadvantages of the first missionaries who came here. A few good native Christian workers might more than double his effective labors. I think therefore that the Prudential Committee will not deem us extravagant or unreasonable in that we have exceeded last year's ~~work~~ estimates for "general work" by about Rs 2,500 — less than $1000. This increase is under the two heads of native agency, & Education — mostly the latter. The increase in the total amount of the estimates (Rs 103.243.) is mostly in allowances for missionaries (which are inserted at the regular rates.) If this sum is taken in dollars at 36 cts the rupee, as we have calculated it, it amounts to $37.167.

Res. 13. A missionary lady having gone to each of these stations to reside, a girls is naturally one of the first methods of work that open to her; & she wishes to make a beginning in it. So with the new Book depot here, (Res. 14) the books will not sell themselves, & to secure the fruits of this outlay a man is needed to sell them.

Res. 15. The several items under this head were put in "Contingent Estimates", not because they are unimportant, or not urgently needed; but because we are law-abiding men, & could not allow ourselves largely to exceed the limit assigned us by placing them among the "Regular estimates". Some of them are so urgently needed that we know not how we shall do without them — And the missionaries themselves have begun to build ~~work~~ in two or three places in the hope that "in some way or other the Lord will provide" the needed means for completing the work.

Res. 17 – 22 I think will be intelligible without any further explanation.

Res. 23 is now unnecessary, as Miss Hume has received your letter granting Rs 800 for the Dormitory – We are glad the Prudential Committee could see their way to grant this, & also Rs 400 for the well of which she wrote.

I do not notice any other items in the minutes which need remark. Other members of the mission will write you of matters which pertain to their own districts.

The several families of the mission are well, so far as I know, at this date. Dr. Fairbank, after attending the mission meeting, has returned to the Pulney hills for a stay of some months longer. This is the time for the early rains. They have fallen in some parts of the country, but Ahmednagar has not been favored as yet. This prolongation of the dry season after we come down from the hills is very trying to health + comfort. Especially as much extra work comes upon us after an absence of several weeks, + the schools are assembled at this time.

with affectionate regards
Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Minutes of the Meeting of the American Marathi Mission at Mahableshwar, May 11th–23rd, 1887.

The Mission met in Murray House, May 11th at 10 A.M. Present at this meeting Brn S. B. Fairbank, Bissell, Harding, Bruce, Winsor, Ballantine, Smith (from 12th), ~~Abbott,~~ Sibley and H. Fairbank – also Mrs. Bissell, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Winsor, Mrs. Fairbank, Mrs. Ballantine, Mrs. Sibley, Miss Emily Bissell and Miss Julia Bissell. Bro. E. S. Hume and family and Miss Fairbank were absent on the Pulney Hills, and Miss Hume was at Ahmednagar.

It devolved on Bro. Ballantine to act as chairman. After devotional services, the minutes of the last meeting were read. Brn Bruce and Bissell were appointed a Business Committee for this meeting. The members of the Mission then gave reports of the work in their respective Districts since our last meeting. A business docket was prepared, and letters received from the Secretaries of the Board since the last meeting, were read.

The morning sessions were held from 10 A.M. to half past 12, and the afternoon sessions from 3 to 5 o'clock. — In each morning session the first half hour was spent in devotional exercises.

The English Sermon was preached by Bro. Sibley, the evening of Sabbath the 15th, and after the sermon the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated. A conference was held at Bro. Winsor's one evening, the subject for consideration being the "Character and Extent of the Education desirable for the Children of our Native Christians", and a devotional conference was held at Bro. Bissell's on one other evening.

The following items of business were transacted at the sessions of this meeting:

I. Resolved that, in regard to Miss Hume's request that she be allowed to return to America after the arrival of her brother, R. A. Hume, the Mission accedes to her request, but would express the earnest hope that she will continue her work in the Girls' School to the end of the present school year — and that when Miss Hume shall leave the school it be put in the charge of Misses Emily and Julia Bissell.

II. That on the arrival of Bro. R. A. Hume, the Parner District be put in his charge, and that he be allowed the use of the Iron-roof bungalow at Ahmednagar – and that the Parner and Jambgaw Districts be henceforth known as one, "the Parner District."

III. The Treasurer, Bro. Harding, was requested to write to Miss Dr. Condict in Bombay, in regard to her medical work, and the grants made by the Board to her, and Miss James. This letter was afterwards read to the Mission, and approved to be sent to Dr. Condict.

IV. Br.ⁿ Harding and Bruce were appointed a Committee to conduct the preliminary examination of Miss Julia Bissell. – The Committee reported that the candidate passed (with an average mark of 94) in all points required. The report was accepted and the examination approved.

V. That the Misses Bissell receive the regular allowance for one conveyance from July 1st of this year – and that Miss Emily Bissell be allowed such part of the regular outfit allowance for assistant missionaries as she may need.

VI. Br. Abbott having presented the subject of purchasing new premises in Bombay on Bellasis Road, for a new Chapel and Mission House, he was requested to present the matter in a letter to Dr. Clark. The letter was afterwards read before the Mission, setting forth the need of a new chapel and Mission house, and the proceeds of the sale of property in Bombay by which the greater part of the expense of the new premises and buildings might be met. The letter was approved by the Mission to be sent to Dr. Clark.

VII. Br.n Smith and Bissell were appointed a Committee to see the Governor of Bombay and other officials, with reference to grants-in-aid to the Ahmednagar College and High School, and other matters connected with our Educational work. — this Committee, having reported the result of their interview, were instructed to send in a representation of the facts in the case to Government.

VIII. That we ask of the Prudential Committee a special grant of Rs. 8,500, to furnish additional rooms needed for the use of the

Ahmednagar College and High School, with the understanding that this sum will be considerably reduced by donations received in this country.

IX. That the Theological Class be assembled in June for a fourth term of study, Bro. Bissell making the best arrangements possible, in the circumstances, for their instruction.

X. The Pastors of the churches in the Vadāle District having sent a petition to the Mission for an allowance for traveling expenses while on tours in their districts, voted that the Mission think it is not best that a grant for this purpose should be made from Mission funds — but that such expenses in connection with their work should be met by the churches that support the pastors.

XI. That in accordance with suggestions in Dr. Clark's letters, we prepare our Estimates for 1888 under two general divisions — the first to include all personal allowances and expenses of Missionaries, and the second, "general work," including Native Agency, Education, Printing and Books, and Tours of Native Agents.

XII. That in our regular estimates for

1888, we ask Rs. 640 for special repairs in Bombay—namely, for painting and white-washing the Mission bungalow.

XIII. That we also ask for an allowance of Rs. 184 for a girls' school at Wadále, and the same sum for a girls' school at Rahuri.

XIV. That we ask Rs. 156 for employing a salesman in the new Tract and Book Depot at Ahmednagar.

XV. That in Contingent Estimates for 1888 we ask for the following appropriations, namely:—(1) That we renew our application, (See Res. II, of our last Oct. minutes) for a special grant of Rs 500, for repairing the (servants houses) out-houses at Rahuri, and Rs. 500 for completing the station school house and Dispensary at Rahuri.

(2). That we ask for Rs 800 for building a station school house (to be also used for chapel,) at Wadále—a like sum to be asked as a grant from government.

(3). That we ask Rs 300 for a Dormitory in connection with the station school at Ahmednagar.

(4). That we ask for Rs. 400 for a school house and teachers' house at Karjat, and

Rs 200 for a school house at Burundgav - both places in the Kolgav (Ahmednagar-Southern) District.

(5). That we ask Rs. 250 for purchasing a site for a new school house and chapel in the town of Belapur, Rahuri District - and Rs. 150, for a school house at Devkana in the Konkan - also Rs. 200 for building a school house at Wai.

(6). That we ask Rs. 1500 for making special changes and repairs in the Mission Bungalow at Rahuri.

(7). That we ask Rs 852 for half the cost of a station school house at Sirur, - another like sum to be asked of Government.

XVI. That the pay of Rev. R. V. Modak be Rs 60 per month from the first of of January, 1888, - and that if he is unable to continue his duties in instructing the ~~the~~ Theologica Class, this reduction in his allowance commence from July 1st of this year, and that the allowance of Marutirao Sangle be Rs 15 per month from Jan. 1st 1888.

XVII. That charges of unchristian conduct having been brought against

Jayavant Shivram Amolik, be be suspended from Mission service without pay from March 1st, and that Br.n Bissell and Winsor be a committee to investigate the charges against him.

XVIII. That the date for the examination of our Native Agents this year be Aug. 3rd and 4th and that three prizes of Rs. 10, Rs. 6 and Rs. 4, be offered to those passing the best examination.

XIX. That Bro. Bruce be appointed to prepare our Mission report for 1887, 700 copies — and that Bro. Abbott be the alternate if Bro. Bruce is unable to prepare the report.

XX. That the Editor of the Dnyanodaya be authorized to change the form of the paper from January 1888, in accordance with a plan now presented to the Mission.

XXI. A letter of Bro. R. A. Hume to the Mission, of date Feb. 18: 1887, having been read, voted that the letter be put on file for preservation with other official letters of the Mission.

XXII. That Bro. Harding having received a donation of Rs. 500 from H. E. Winter, Esq. for rebuilding the station school house at Sholapur, we approve of Bro. Harding using the donation for this purpose, and if all is not needed for the station School house, we approve of his using the balance of it for building a chapel for the Wat-ward church.

XXIII. That Miss Hume be allowed to overdraw in her next account, if necessary, to the amount of Rs 700.

XXIV. Br. Bruce having offered to print a new edition (1000 copies) of the Marathi Catechism, "Mission Series, No. 4," the expense to be met by funds of the "Columbian Press," voted that we approve and accept the offer with thanks.

XXV. That Brn Sibley and Bruce be a committee to secure if possible a site for a Mission bungalow at Wai.

XXVI. That second-grade preachers in Bombay be allowed Rs 10 per month for house-rent, when necessary.

XXVII. That Dr. Ballantine be appointed to examine the Normal School next Oct. — Mr. and Mrs. Fairbank to examine the Girls' School in the Bible and other subjects outside of the Government Standards — Brn Sibley and Winsor to examine the Mission High School, and Brn Harding and Abbott to examine the Theological Class.

XXVIII. The Annals of the Mission for 1885 and 1886 as prepared by the Secretary, were read and approved for recording.

XXIX. Bro. Smith was appointed to preach the English Sermon and Bro. Abbott the Marathi Sermon at our next meeting.

XXX. That the accompanying Estimates for 1888, amounting to Rs 55,755 for Missionary allowances,– and " Rs 47,488 " "General Work",

Total – Rs 103,243, be approved,– and that the Secretary write to Dr. Clark in regard to the division of our estimates into two parts; and the excess over last year's estimates under the head of "General Work,"– and that we also approve of the Contingent Estimate amounting to Rs. 5,652.

XXXI. That the above minutes be approved, and a copy of them be sent to the Secretary of the Board in Boston.

L. Bissell
Secretary.

Rec'd July 18 '87
Ref. Estimates

Ahmednagar
13th June 1887

Rev. Dr. Clark. Secretary
My dear Sir.

May I add a P.S. to this already heavily freighted letter? Dwight, our youngest son, is in his Sophomore year in Yale College - just completes his Soph. year this month. He will be twenty years old next Nov. - Can the Prudential Committee make him a grant this year. I think he has kept clear of debt so far, waiting at a table of a club when he could find an opportunity, & helping himself in the same way by waiting at a hotel table last summer. If the Committee could give him the same grant they did last year, $150, I would urge him to go on another year, & then in the Senior year, if need be, he must incur a little debt, & push thro'. His brother, Harry 22 yrs. old, is in Olivet Coll. Mich - in the same year as Dwight. His uncle & brothers in Mich. are helping him. I hope to see Harry out here when he gets ready for his life-work.

Whatever grant the Committee see fit to make for Dwight, will you send to "Mr. McGower, New Haven, Ct." who will receive it for him — Dwight may be away somewhere in July —

Very truly yours

L. P. Bissell

13 June. '87
as to Dwight

allowance voted,

Ahmednagar, India
(now at Mahableshwar)

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark.
Secy A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir,

Your telegram inquiring "who now oppose Hume's return", reached Ahmednagar on the 27th inst. at 10 A.M. — but two days were required for the transit by post to this place; so it was recd here yesterday. I presume you wish an immediate reply by telegraph; & I send you today this answer, "none oppose". So far as I know, no member of the mission now objects to Mr. Hume's return to his work in the mission. Certainly nothing said in our recent mission meeting indicates any such opposition. The minutes of the meeting will soon be forwarded to you, but the first two resolutions I will copy here.

1.– Resolved, that in regard to Miss Hume's request that she be allowed to return to America after the arrival of her brother

R. A. Hume, the mission accedes to her request, but would express the earnest hope that she will continue her work in the Girls School to the end of the present school year — & that when Miss Hume shall leave the school, it be put in the charge of Misses Emily & Julia Bissell.

11. — That on the arrival of Bro. R. A. Hume the Parner district be put in his charge; & that he be allowed the use of the Iron-roof bungalow — & that the Parner & Jamgov districts be henceforth known as one, the Parner District.

These resolutions place Bro. Hume in the same connection with our mission work which he occupied two years ago. The same district is put under his care, & the same bungalow is assigned for his use. The mission does not appoint the instructors in the Theoloical Seminary. They are appointed by the Trustees of the Seminary; several of whom are members of the mission, & the others are prominent native Christian ministers & laymen. But I understand that no change has been made in the corps of instructors in the last two years; & that Bro. Hume still holds the position of Dean, & Professor of Scripture Exegesis in the Seminary, as before he left India.

Your telegram was a great surprise to the members of the mission, as for the last three months we have been hearing that Bro. Hume was definitely arranging to leave in June. It is possible that he wished to know before leaving America what action was taken in regard to him in this meeting. I wish it were not too expensive to make known the full result by telegraph. So far as appeared in the meeting, all the brethren were ready to receive Bro. Hume, & assign him the work of which he formerly had charge. They accept as made in good faith his statement that he expects to come back here & work in harmony with his brethren. As he well knows this could not be done if the doctrines of the "new departure" were taught in the Theological Seminary, they are confident he does not intend to put them forward. Though he declined to give verbal pledges to the Prudential Committee ~~they~~ the mission consider his Christian character a pledge that he will not introduce these divisive speculations.

The members of the mission are leaving this week to return to their respective stations. Some went down last week. The stay here has been very pleasant, & I think all have found it profitable in many respects.

With loving Christian regards
Ever sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Rec'd June 27/87.

P.S.

I addressed the telegram to "Secretary Clark. Boston. Mass." Is this sufficiently definite to be sure of finding you? or what would be the best address?

L.B.

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Ahmednagar.
Bombay. India.

Rev. Dr. Clark. 9th July. 1887.
Secretary. A.B.C.F.M.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of May 26th, the date on which the cablegram was sent, came on the 27th June. I hope my reply to your dispatch was received in season to be used in the meeting of the Prudential Committee soon to be held. The words of my reply, "none oppose", may have seemed too strong in view of the letter from a member of the mission to Dr. Thompson, to which you refer. But the entire absence of opposition in the mission meeting just closed, seemed to justify the statement, none oppose. Bro. Winsor, I remember, suggested the words, "I know of none". But I replied, "that seems short of the truth, Here we have just assigned him work, a house, &c, & no one made the least objection, Do you oppose his return"? He replied, "Oh no, I do not" - & I said, "I am sure others would say the same". My letter to you of the same date with the dispatch (May 30th),

Rec'd June 27/87.

will have explained more fully the reasons for it.

Your other inquiry in regard to Mr. W—, I am sorry to see. It refers no doubt to something which occurred at Mahableshwar over two years ago. It was in connection with the transfer of a native teacher from Satara to Sirur. I was not at Mahableshwar at the time, & only learned the facts from others afterwards. The question was raised at the time whether a report of the matter should be made to the Mission, & an investigation be held. It may seem strange to you that such a course was not adopted; or that some statement of the matter was not sent to yourself. But it seemed to us a choice of evils, & I remember I was one who thought I was choosing the lesser evil in advising silence. You will remember the unpleasant relations existing between Brs. B— & W— before the removal of the latter to Sirur. To have reported the matter of 1885 to the Prudential Committee would have opened the way to another strife, which some of us would almost sooner leave the mission than encounter.

Another fact no doubt had some influence with us. Mr. W— had recently returned from America with the fullest confidence of the Prudential Committee, & with special grants for the new undertaking of his Industrial School. And we had learned from previous experience that representations in regard to Mr. W— by other members of the mission were apparently received with great caution by the Committee, & considerable allowance was made for a supposed prejudice against him or his school. It seemed to us that it might appear to the Committee that this prejudice was a factor in leading to these new representations.

The full facts of this case, whatever they may be, are well known to Bro. Gates, who is now in America. He was at the Hills (Mahableshwar) when they occurred, & saw & heard all. I think it would be much more satisfactory for you to learn them from him than to receive them from me at second hand.

Since the receipt of your letters on this subject, Bro. Harding & myself have met &

conferred together respecting it. And we substantially agree regarding it. I hope you will think with us that duty does not now call for an official notice of this matter. I fear it would seriously interrupt the work of Mr. W—, & of our mission.

Since the return of Mr. & Mrs. W— to India, our personal relations with them have been of the most cordial character, & we hope they may continue so as long as we are associated together in mission work.

With affectionate regards
Very fraternally yours
L. Bissell

Rec'd Aug. 13.
An to Mr. W.

Ahmednagar, India.
Sept. 10th 1887.

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

I send herewith a copy of the minutes of a special mission meeting, held here this week. Your dispatch of the 7th inst. reached us the next morning, just before we came together, & was the first subject considered. Several of the brethren had already written their opinions at some length, & Mr. Smith had sent them home; but as it would be some days before his letters could reach Boston, it was thought best to send one word in reply - Altho' several of the brethren who had known Mr. Douglas spoke highly of ~~them~~ him as an earnest & able christian man, yet the general sentiment was that it was not advisable to send out one who was so advanced in life that he would not be able to master the

Marathi language. Notwithstanding this expression of opinion, if Mr. Douglas is sent out to our mission. I have no doubt we shall give him a cordial welcome; & I trust he would be very useful for some years in the use of the Eng. & Hindi languages.

2- Miss Hume has made arrangements to leave today, but the steamer is delayed a day or two, & she will not sail before Monday or Tuesday.

Dr. Fairbank is also arranging to leave about the 20th inst. So we shall have plenty of vacancies for Mr. DeRegt & the ladies, who we trust are already on their way to join us.

4- Mr. Abbott has already written you with reference to the new premises, & new Chapel site in Bombay – It was also mentioned in my letter accompanying the May minutes. So I need not say more in this letter.

5- "Mr. Modak was called to his rest & reward on the 5th inst. We have no one in the mission service who can take his place as Instructor in the Theol. Seminary. He had studied the Bible carefully with Mr. Ballantine more than 30 years ago, & had translated a "Theol. Class Book" into Marathi under his direction. This gave him distinct ideas upon the great essential doctrines of Christianity. He had great freedom in the use of the Marathi language, & his sermons were full of thought, forcibly expressed. One of our best linguists among the missionaries said, "after hearing Modak preach, I think I never want to speak again in Marathi." Happily he has left many samples of his richness of thought & expression in the books prepared by himself in the vernacular. Among his last words, if not the very last, to his children were these, "Hold on steadfast in the faith." He has fought the good fight; he has kept the faith; & we doubt not the crown which the Lord gives His servants has been won by him"!

Mr. R. A. Hume reached Bombay on the 28th of Aug. – was married in the chapel at this place on the 7th inst., & after the honey moon will no doubt be ready to take up his work here again – I presume he has written you of his movements & purposes, & will keep you fully informed.

Julia has not been well the past month, & has been in Bombay for a change & medical treatment. She is much better, & hopes to return here this week –

With affectionate regards
Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Ahmednagar
Nov. 10th 1887

Rev. Dr. Clark. Secretary
My dear Sir.

Enclosed I send you a copy of the minutes of our mission meeting held last month - & in this letter such explanation of some of the Resolutions as seems necessary.

Res. 1. & 2 - Your letter to Mr. Bruce granting him permission to visit America with his family, was recd during the meeting. It is now twelve years since they returned to India, & the health of both - of Mrs. Bruce especially, requires this relief. When they leave Mr. & Mrs. Sibley will look after the work of the whole district. We are sorry there is no missionary whom we can send to be associated with them. But they have been a year at Satara with Mr. & Mrs. Bruce, & will know the district, & the native agents stationed at different points in it.

Res. 3. & 7 – Mr. De Regt & party reached Bombay on the 31st Oct. He has already come here, & taken his place in connection with the College & High School. The emphasis which this gives to the application in Res. 7 will readily be apprehended.

Res. 4 needs no explanation.

Res 5 – Your letter of Sept. 3d inquiring about Miss Condict was duly received. In July last I issued a circular to the mission in regard to a grant to Miss Condict next year; but most of the brethren thought it better to defer action in the matter till we should come together in October. Dr. Condict did not ask an allowance for her personal support but for the support of two Bible women. However, as two ladies have come to our mission in Bombay, & will be interested in Bible women's work; it may be better that these women should be under their direction than that we should send them to others. Bible women of the right character & spirit are not so abundant that an indefinite number can be employed.

Res. 6 - Bro. Abbott's parents have come to live with their daughter, Mrs. Evans, on the Isle of Wight. It is natural that Mr. Abbott should wish to pay them a visit, & he takes the opportunity of going at the time he would ~~be~~ probably be absent from Bombay half as long, in the hot season, if he remained in the country.

Res. 8 - A few changes were needed in Bro. Smith's house to provide comfortable rooms for Mr. De Regt.

Res. 9 - The letter of Bro. Abbott will furnish all the explanation needed of this matter.

Res. 11 - Wāi is an important city, & is likely soon to be connected by Railroad with Poona. It is the proper center of the Bhuinj District, which should be called the Wāi District. If a lot can be obtained, the Bhuinj bungalow should be removed to Wāi.

Res. 13 - The special grant for the Girls School this year (thro' Miss Hume,) included an appropriation for a water pipe & reservoir. But there are some objections to laying this pipe, & the mission approve of using the appropriation for an additional Class Room, which is much needed.

Res. 26 – One of the weak churches extended a call to a licentiate in the Satara district, whom they could only partially support; & it was very doubtful whether the Sustentation Fund of the Native Union could supply the remainder. Besides, the young man who received the call was occupying an important position, recently secured at much expense & effort, & the mission thought it very desirable he should remain there. These representations were made to the Union & to the candidate, & he returned to his work in the Satara district.

The other resolutions will hardly need any explanation, as they are in the line of our regular work, & will be easily understood. Young Modak, mentioned in Res. 16, we trust will prove a valuable mission helper – & perhaps in time supply in good part the place of his father. He is about 25 years of age. His pay will come from the appropriation for his father.

P.S. The account of the meeting of the Board at Springfield reached us this week, & was read with great interest. It was not an ideal meeting, considered with reference to the best effect upon the churches, & the greatest help to the missionary cause. But considering the excited state of feeling with which many of them came together, perhaps we could not expect a better result. We hope the outcome of it all will be greater peace, & that less prominence will be given to the points of difference, & more to the points of agreement among Christians. I do not think the theories & speculations of the "New Departure" have found a lodgment in the minds of many of our Christians. I had occasion once in a while to speak to the Theol. Students on these matters, & to answer their questions. Neither they nor I could find any support for these theories in the word of God; & our constant reference was "to the law & the testimony, if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no truth in them".

We had a pleasant mission meeting

last month – nothing to disturb the harmony of feeling, or prevent spiritual results. We are feeling that the burden of entertaining such a crowd is a good deal for our Native Christian community at Ahmednagar to bear from year to year. And perhaps we may hold meetings at the other stations from time to time, & thus lessen the pressure to run to Ahmednagar.

In the gospel of Christ.

Ever affectionately yours

L. Bissell

Ahmednagar, Nov. 10, /87.

Rec'd Dec. 12.

Ahmednagar, Bombay
India, Jany. 18th 1888

Rev. Dr. Clark, Secretary,
A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of Nov. 9th '87, & another of Nov. 17th were duly received; & we were thankful that the Prudential Committee could see their way to come so near our estimates in making appropriations for 1888. The addition of $2000 reported in your second letter was a great relief. We hope some part of the contingent estimates may yet be received.

Your letter of Dec. 8th is also to hand, & I will try to send you the Statistics for this station by this weeks mail. I have been buried in reports, statistics, & accounts for the last three weeks, & am just rising to some more congenial work, & hope to be in tents again in two days.

The report of the past year leaves us an encouraging outlook to the eye of faith, tho the vision of sense may promise little speedy fruit. Our village schools are working their way gradually into favor with the people of the towns where they are situated, & I confidently anticipate that many of them will soon have pupils from the cultivators, & other good castes in the villages.

The more detailed report of the year which I generally send in January, I will omit now, & refer you to our printed report, which Mr. Bruce is preparing, & hopes to get thro' the press next month. We shall miss Mr. Bruce next year in the preparation of our report, not to say anything of other departments of our work.

We are much pleased with Mr. de Regt, the new Professor in the Mission College. I think he will make a popular & valuable worker in connection with the Institution.

Last week we were favored with evening addresses in the High School hall, from Col. Oldham & the Rev. Mr. Grubb, two evangelists sent out from England in connection with the

Church Missionary Society, to hold "a mission" in the different cities of Western India - or as we should say, to hold evangelistic services in connection with the different missionaries & Chaplains in this Presidency. Col. Oldham is a retired old Indian, & was personally acquainted with many of us. Both the gentlemen were earnest & devoted Christians, & in full sympathy with our work. We enjoyed the services much; & I trust many of our native Christians were helped to a fuller consecration. Such preaching comes in well in connection with our steady work, & perhaps supplies a lack of directness & aggressiveness in it. Something like a grand assault after the sappers & miners have been at work for months in preparation.

I have prepared the Statistical report of Ahmednagar, & most of the out-stations under my care, & forward it to you with this letter - At most of the out-stations there is no regular congregation except as at Kolgav, where the Church forms the nucleus of a congregation. Still, when I go to many of these places I meet a good company of the people, oftener in the evening than during the day. But there is no observance of the Sabbath as a day of worship except by the Christians.

Your letter of Dec. 14th is recd, & the contents noted.

Mr. Gates & family landed in Bombay on the 15th, as he will no doubt write you. I fear they suffered from the cold, & the rough wintry weather, as it could hardly be otherwise coming at such a time with a family of little children. But we are thankful they are safe on terra firma again.

With Christian regards from us all,
Ever sincerely yours
L. Bissell

P. S. In Resolution 5. of our minutes last May, Emily was allowed to draw such part of the outfit allowance as she might need. Emily has received nothing for outfit, & Julia rec^d the regular allowance before leaving. But our Treasurer, Mr. Harding, said Mr. Ward had made no reference to it, & he thought they would better wait till he could hear from Mr. Ward — The manual sent to Julia told her she would be entitled to $75 more at the end of one year, if she needed it — She needs $50. more, & Emily needs $200 of outfit. If this is regular, will Mr. Ward kindly notify our Treasurer that they may draw these sums.

Excuse a long postscript — Yrs

L. B.

Ahmednagar, Jan. 18, 1888,

Rec'd Feb. 18.

Mr. Ward - Outfit

Ahmednagar. India.
11th April 1888

Rev. Dr. Clark
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir,

The telegram of last week will have briefly told you of the death of Mr. de Regt Apr. 2d & letters from Mr. Smith will no doubt have given full particulars. We are deeply afflicted, & our loss as a mission is great. Our young & gifted brother is suddenly taken from our midst. Medical skill united with loving care could not keep him. We had hardly tho't how fast he was growing into our love & esteem till he was taken away. We looked upon his healthy robust form, & counted on many years of active labor from him. We saw how speedily & fully he identified himself with the work, & rejoiced that one so well fitted to be useful had been assigned to our field. But in the midst of our congratulations, the fell disease prevalent in the city, by some means fastened itself upon him, & in ten days used up that life of so great promise. We are dumb, for we have no words to express our grief — we are silent because the Lord has permitted it. He knew it all before our young brother came to us. Wisely He has appointed that this grief & loss should come to us. In goodness & love He has promoted the loved one to a higher service. "He hath done all things well." Our deepest sympathy is awakened for the afflicted family at Clinton, his American home. The sudden & sad tidings will be a terrible trial to them. But the Lord can sustain & comfort them, & we are sure He will. I enclose a letter for them with this, wh. kindly allow to be posted.

your letters of Jan. 10: 88 – of Feb. 2d, & of March 1st were duly received. The questions raised in these letters will come before us in our mission meeting, which is to commence May 2d. After that I shall be writing you in regard to some of them.

In regard to the work among the hill tribes in the Punjaub, to which you refer, I may say here that while it would be interesting to study such a work on the ground, we might find that the religious antecedents of the people, their prejudices & ideas were so entirely different from those among whom we labor, that no special help could be obtained from studying the methods which were so successful among those tribes. They may be as unlike the Marathas as the Japanese or Sandwich Islanders.

The subject of new premises in Bombay will be an important one in our coming meeting, & I hope some solution may be reached which will be satisfactory to the Bombay brethren as well as to the Prudential Committee. The work in Bombay presents us with such large bills from time to time that we constantly have the question forced upon us, how much shall we enlarge in Bombay, & how much in the Deccan? I think the same question is often suggested to the Prudential Committee.

We are glad the Committee could see their way to allow us $36.000 for our estimates for 1889. If exchange continues at its present high rates, this will equal over Rs100,000, & I should hope will prevent any severe retrenchment. But it leaves very little room for enlargement. Our appropriations for the present year reach that figure, & three or four persons have been added to our missionary force within the year.

In your letter of March 1st, you inquire about medical work at Ahmednagar. I think the mission will sustain me in saying that a medical woman is urgently needed there. Mrs. Bissell has had a great deal of experience in treating the sick, but she never had a medical education, & when any very serious illness occurs we call the Civil Surgeon; who is sometimes available, & sometimes is not. It is not made a part of his regular duties to visit the native sick at their houses, but only to prescribe for them at the hospital when they appear there in person. But this is often too much for a very sick person to endure; & when there are several such, as has been the case at times this year, it becomes a great burden. Besides the usual sickness of fever, &c. small pox has prevailed in Ahmednagar this year, & when near the end of the term one or two cases appeared among the girls, it was thought best to close the school at once. And the girls were dismissed & sent to their homes. Somehow vaccination has not seemed to prove a valid safeguard in all cases. I presume Mr. de Regt had been vaccinated in childhood, but the disease seized upon him in a malignant form. I think it would be a good rule that a missionary coming to India should be re-vaccinated if many years have passed since he was vaccinated. Sooner or later he is almost sure to be exposed here.

But about the Medical lady at Ahmednagar. I will write you more fully after another month, when the question has been considered in mission meeting. Only I may say here, do not wait for Julia to study medicine & come out — that will take too many years. And that whole matter is still in uncertainty. We are glad to hear thro' Mr. Abbott that his sister is appointed to this mission. But I presume he will wish her to remain in Bombay, & make a home for him.

Thanks for writing about the outfit allowance to Emily & Julia. I only asked for Mr. Ward to signify to Mr. Harding that he might pay it, because Mr Harding said he did not feel at liberty to pay it without a word to that effect from Mr. Ward - & he had rec^d^ no such word. But your letter will be sufficient.

Your question about starting mission schools in the villages, I am sure I can answer in accordance with the sense of the mission without waiting to consult them. This is right in the line of our work for years. As fast as we can prepare good teachers, & get the means to support them, & build ~~a~~ houses for them to live in & to hold the schools in, so fast we can advance our work into new villages, & evangelize them. I know of no more effectual way of getting hold of the people & diffusing gospel light among them than by opening these Christian Schools. It is not a sensational way, & to some it may seem a slow process. But to one who has passed 36 years here, & seen all methods tried, this seems the most hopeful way of reaching the

people, & preparing the way of the
Lord. We do not stop preaching the
word where we have a school. On the
contrary we find better opportunities
for preaching, & there is something left
to remind the people of what we have
said when we are not there. But do
not limit the time of occupation to
"three years", or the expense to "$50."
That sum will sometimes be suffi-
cient, indeed we can sometimes hire
a house, & incur no great outlay at first.
But for a good school house & teacher's
house that would not be enough. In one
place 40 miles S. of Ahmednagar, last Dec. I obtained
a grant of land from Govt- for a school house
& teacher's house. But one condition of
the grant is that I build within a year.
I have nothing to build with, but I gave
a written promise to build, & before Dec.
31st I mean to put up a thatch at least
to meet the letter of the law, & hold the
piece of land. It is a County town,
& there are a hundred low caste children
half of whom might be brought into a school.

In many of the smaller villages the people of the town will send their children also, if a school room can be provided away from the low caste quarter. In this way we are reaching the high caste people in some villages.

If you can raise from "$2000. to $5000. a year for advanced work" in this direction, I am sure all the missionaries will say this is progress in the right direction, & will surely produce fruit in due time.

I enclose a photo of our new Book & Tract Depository at Ahmednagar. This cost about Rs 2500. & no part of it came from the funds of the Board. It is already doing a good work, & I trust will be more & more useful.

With Christian love from us all
as ever, fraternally yours
L. Bissell

ap. 11. 1888 S.

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Ahmednagar, India.
(Now at Panchgani) 28th May
1888.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark, Secretary,
A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

I send you with this letter a copy of the minutes of our Mission meeting held this month at Mahableshwar — also a copy of our Estimates for 1889. Some of the resolutions may need a few words of expanation, & of such I will speak in order.

Res. 1 & 2. will be easily understood, & I think will be satisfactory.

Res. 3. The discussion of the minute & conclusions of this resolution occupied more time than any other subject which came before us. Perhaps it is not strange that considerable feeling was awakened; tho' it is a question calling for the exercise of the sober, honest judgment of the mission, not for reference to any personal considerations. But we are all deeply interested in plans for the advancement of the work in our respective fields of labor. And no doubt it is

[illegible] Minutes Letter
May 29. 1888

well that the ultimate decision of such questions rests with the Prudential Committee, who can look at both sides with more impartiality than we who are here on the ground. In your letter of Jan. 10th '88, in which the grant of Rs 23.200 for the purchase of new premises in Bombay is allowed, the last sentence is as follows - "Be careful not to exceed the sums allowed by our Committee. No further sums are to be looked for from here". To some of us it did not seem showing proper deference to your instructions, or a wise economy in the use of the funds of the Board, in the face of such an injunction to write immediately, urging the purchase of other premises which would cost in the rough estimate some Rs 10.000 more than the grant proposed, & not improbably exceed it by twice or thrice that amount before the new house & premises were put in proper order. However, we appointed a Committee to visit Bombay, & examine these & other premises; & meanwhile we asked an allowance for the rent of a house in Bombay - (see Res. 14.). As letters will soon reach you representing the views both of the

Bombay & the Deccan brethren on this subject. I need not enlarge here.

Res. 4. Will receive your hearty sympathy.

Res. 5. In your letter of March 1st '88, the inquiry is made to which this Resn is an answer. Dr. Ballantine now has his residence & dispensary at Rahuri; & tho' he can be called in an important case, he cannot meet the constant calls for medical attention among the pupils of our schools, & others both Christian & Hindus. The Civil Hospital, from which we have been accustomed to obtain medical advice & medicines to some extent gratuitously, has been removed to a distant part of the city. And the courteous hospital assistant whom we have employed for 25 years has recently died. All these reasons exist aside from the important general one, that medical practice by a missionary opens the doors & hearts of so many of the people – the women especially – to the reception of Christian truth under favoring conditions. We hope, therefore, that a medical missionary lady ~~may~~ will soon be on her way to Ahmednagar.

Res. 6. Medical catechists can make themselves very useful among the people; & as the prejudice against Christianity is removed, they will be more & more needed. It is well therefore to have a class in preparation.

Res 7. & 8. The arrangements contemplated in these resolutions we hope will be only temporary. It was easier to find a teacher who could take Julia's place in the Girls' School, than one who could teach Mr. de Regt's classes in the College.

Mr. Haig was ill last February, & left India in March: but we hear he hopes to return next Oct. or Nov.

Res. 9. These are tentative efforts, & probably many of them must be made before any permanent relief will be secured.

Res. 10. & 13. Evangelistic efforts of the right kind are always welcome. The two Evangelists who came out from England a few months ago, were thoroughly good, & earnest men. Our native Christians were greatly interested in their addresses, & I think were spiritually strengthened. But I cannot say that much was accomplished among the non-Christian hearers. We need to give earnest & careful study to the question, "what are the conditions of successful spiritual work among the educated Hindus. Hitherto crowds of hearers have been obtained, interested enough to come again & again, but the converts, if any, have been here & there a unit. The idea of the Hindu, that truth & religion are different for different nations, seems one great difficulty in the way of his feeling the claims of Christianity.

From Res 13 you will see that we have employed a native evangelist for special work. Mr. Sumant Vishnupunt is a son of our former excellent pastor, Vishnupunt. He has much of his father's spirit, & winning ways. Our plan is that he should, besides his work at Parel, visit some of the stations in the Deccan, & perhaps with one of the missionaries, hold meetings for several days with the christians & others who may be induced to attend. We think Sumantrao is well fitted to be useful in such work.

Res. 11. I have already written you of our strong approval of this work – I hope we may be able to increase the number of our village schools just as fast as good teachers can be obtained.

Probably the amount we have asked under the head of "Preferred Contingents" will be as much as we can use profitably in one year, on account of the lack of more Christian teachers.

Res. 12. Bro. Smith will keep you informed of the needs of this Institution. The liberal grants received from Govt. are helpful in more ways than one

Res. 14. is referred to at the close of my remarks on Res. 3.

Res. 15. 16. 17 are also asking special grants for work that will not wait another year. The dormitory is one which I built 25 years ago, & it was then the best one in connection with the girls school. Now, after the battering of 25 monsoons, it will not keep the girls dry; & as it is next door to the hospital room, Emily says she will send the girls to live in the hospital before they are sick, otherwise she must send them there to be cured after they become sick.

Dr. Ballantine has advanced the money, & the Station School house & Dispensary have been built, & are doing their good work, but it is in the line of regular mission work,

& the grant is due if the receipts of the Board will warrant the appropriation.

Res. 19. Narayan Bálaji, a licentiate, has been called to be pastor of the Sirur church. The church assumes his support, & on his allowances Mr. Abbott has employed another preacher.

Res. 21. The minute in this resolution with reference to Ganaji was adopted in the hope that he might see his error & be ready to correct it. I am happy to say he has already written to Mr. Winsor, apologising for his conduct, & promising amendment; & I hope the matter will be satisfactorily adjusted.

Res. 22 to 29 inclusive I think will need no explanation.

Res. 30. Explains itself. Mr Sibley has been ill since the 25th of April, & is still confined to his bed. Dr. Robertson, who is also spending the hot season at Panchgani, is still attending upon him, & has offered to accompany him to Satara when he is ~~taken down~~ removed this week. An own brother could not have been more kind. He took the Rs 50 mentioned in the minute, & immediately sent them to

Mr. Sibley as a donation to help on their work at Satara.

Res. 31 will explain itself.

Res 32, 33, refer to our Estimates for next year. Thirty five cents is more than the rupee is worth now, & 41 per cent. is not as high a premium as is now obtained. Mr. Ward's bills for this & last months have sold at 45 to 48½ per cent.

Our estimates for "general work" exceed the limit assigned us by about Rs 3000, but they exceed last year's estimates for general work (& this year's appropriations) by only ~~about~~ Rs 1,244. I hope this will be considered sufficient proof of our loyalty to the injunctions of "stringent economy" sent out to us.

The estimates for the 1st Division, "Allowances for missionaries, exceed those of last year by Rs 8.966, but these allowances are made out under the rules approved by the Prudential Committee; & the cause of this increase is that the allowances for the three ladies appointed for Bombay, & of four additional children in the ~~amount~~ Deccan amount to over Rs 10,000 — more than the increase over last year's Estimates.

with these brief explanations I forward these minutes & Estimates. The "Preferred Contingents" have been already noticed under Res 11. of our minutes.

We have spent a pleasant two months at this Hill station, (Panchgani) which is much more quiet than Mahableshwar. Mr. & Mrs. Sibley are with us, & have been here since we came. We are much concerned for Bro. Sibley. He has been confined to his bed for nearly five weeks. He had a severe hemorrhage in the first week of his illness, & the Doctor says no doubt his lungs are diseased, tho' he avoids the use of the word "consumption in speaking with them — Arrangements are being made for his removal in a palankin to Satara, as it is not thought that it would be well for him to remain here after the rains set in. We still hope that careful nursing, with the Lord's blessing, may bring him through — But it will certainly take weeks or months to restore him so that he can attend to work again. Bro. Gates is asked to render them such assistance as may be needed for the present.

I meant to have written you in reply to your letter of April 13th - You may think that the fact that we do not call together a Theol. Class this year is an indication that we are not as mindful of our (wants) needs in this respect as we should be - But I assure you there is something else needed here, more than higher Eng. education. Many of our men would jump at the chance of a four years course of study at Nagar - for it means an easy time studying & higher pay after the course of study - But with the material we have to work upon, it does not necessarily mean a higher & more spiritual class of native agents. No more than adding three or four years to the course in home seminaries would mean turning out a whole class of Richard Storrs & Dwight Moodys - But I must reserve this subject for a letter after we reach home.

With Christian regards

Very sincerely yours

L. Bissell

Ahmednagar
18th June 1888

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.
My dear Sir.

Your letter of May 15th in reply to mine of Apr. 11th was recd on the 12th inst. It contains a few inquiries to which a prompt answer will be acceptable.

1st In regard to Miss Eltzholtz M.D. who came out to Bombay last November, to be associated with Dr. Condict. The latter having recovered her health, has accepted a position at Hyderabad. (Nizam's) & I think she has induced Miss Eltzholtz to accompany her, expecting that the latter will also find some position which will be much more remunerative than work in connection with a mission. From what she said to us at Panchgani, she seemed to have recd the impression that the mission had dealt (were dealing) very ungenerously with the members of the mission in Bombay, & they might treat her in the same way. She told me she thot

she would write you withdrawing her offer of herself to the Board. You will probably receive it before this letter reaches you.
2- It is very difficult to give an "average sum" as the amount needed in order to start a school in a new place. The circumstances are so different in different places. Sometimes the village rest-house, or Mahars rest-house can be used for the school. In other villages it is not available. In some places it is possible to rent a house for the teacher & his family. In other places both a school house & teacher's house must be built. as the conditions of having a good school. We try to secure the most economical conditions consistent with having a good school. I have built sch. houses in the last year that did not cost more than $20 each. But I also built one that cost Rs 375. or about $130. A year or two before I put up in the same place a thatch house, (walls thatch as well as roof.) which cost only $10. - this was to make an experiment. & see whether the people were in earnest in asking for a school. The

little thatch house was in the Mahar quarter. But when the villagers became acquainted with the teachers, they sent a petition for a house outside of the Mahar quarters, so that they might also send to school. Now both villagers & Mahars send to the new sch. house.

However, it may be expedient to have some definite sum named as sufficient to build a school house. I would say for one of the cheaper style of houses $25. to $50. For one of the more substantial school houses $75. to $150. And if besides the school house it is also necessary to build a teacher's house, the expense will be about double the sums above named. The pay of a teacher ranges from $30. to $60. a year. These varying amounts will enable the Sab. Schools & other givers to select one not beyond their ability; & they may expect the School house to answer both for day school & Sabbath school, & also as a meeting house for the people when the missionary or some native preacher may visit the place on his tours.

3 - I wish to say a few words more in regard to your letter of April 13th, which I noticed in the last letter I sent you. The method which you speak of for supplying our Theological Classes is just the one we have followed for thirty years. We "take young men who are out as preachers & teachers, who give promise of ability to preach", & bring them in to make up our Theol. Classes. We pick out the very best men we have, already tried as workers. The class of nine who completed their course last year was made up of such picked men. When they had been examined by the Native Association for licensure, five of them were approved. The sixth they consented to license after Mr. Hume & myself had used our influence to induce them to do it; & slightly changed the usual form of words used. We thought him a sincere & good man, & Mr. Hume wanted him as pastor of the Jambgav Church. He was installed in February. Lacking as he was in many things, it would be a mistake to

have kept him longer in the Class. He had reached his growth, except as any christian may continue to grow in grace & knowledge; He was fitted to do good in the place where he ministers, & they greatly needed him in that church. The best student in the class, & the only one who passed an examination as 2d grade preacher, is Yosphaji, the one mentioned in Res. 21st of the minutes sent home last month. His advanced position & increased pay led him to assume that he was a man of much importance, & the missionary in charge found it necessary to suspend him from mission service, till he could be brought to his senses. Three other members of the class have incurred debts so as greatly to injure if not destroy their usefulness. This is a weakness of our native Christians, (the habit of running in debt,) which costs us immense trouble, & it is very hard to lead them to be careful in this regard. Now these whole nine men, when they were selected by Bro. Hume & myself six years ago, were picked from our body of native helpers as the most eligible members for a Theol. Class. The fact is we were rather hard up for candidates, & took some whom we did not expect to become licentiates or pastors, but who, we hoped, might become more useful as Bible Readers & preachers. And I have not given you these facts to prove that it was not well to bring them into the class. But I state them to show you that our material for good Theol. Classes is very limited. Even when we select the best, & give them four years (or four terms) of study, we are not sure of turning out a lot of first class men. There is not one of these nine who would be called so by most of our missionaries. Tanhaji was by far the best student in the class, & may develop into a good worker, if he receives more grace & ballast. I have given you this peep behind the scenes, not because I supposed it would be pleasant to you; but to show you that there are many facts which we do not mention unless compelled to do so, & these facts we must take into account in our plans for advancing our work.

One more fact in regard to the material for Theol. Classes. I find that 39 of our employed native agents, (pastors, preachers, &c) have already been thro' our Theol. course of study, & 7 others who have been in these classes have been dismissed from service, or are connected with other missions. Now our native agents for last year are given in the report as, "Pastors 13. Preachers 20. Bible Readers 36," in all 69. And of these 39, more than half, have already been thro' the Theol. course! (A very few of these may be counted among our teachers, but I think not more than three or four.) It may be thought that the 141 teachers might furnish many eligible & promising candidates. But we must bear in mind that after deducting the large number (a) of those too young to enter a Theol. Class, (b) of those advanced in years, (c) of those who do not wish to become preachers, (d) of those whom we could not ask to enter such a class on account of their low standard of Christian life, there is not a large number left from which to select candidates.

Then we must also bear in mind that to these young men entering the Theol. Sem^y. means a more independent position, increase of pay, & escape from the drudgery of school teaching. And the influence of such motives on partially sanctified natures, is often enough to make them eager to enter upon this course of Study, especially as it allows them to put forward the argument of greater usefulness.

Most of our teachers are doing a good work in their schools, & just the work that is needed as village school teachers. If educated in the High school, or Theol. Sem^y., they would not do this village work — at least not without much larger pay —

The greater part of our Christians from the Mahar caste are not fitted for higher work than that of a good Bible Reader, or village sch. teacher. There are a few sons of our pastors & other Christians now coming forward, & we hope they will be able to reach a higher standard in education & in Christian work. But we must push them forward gently or they may be spoiled entirely for Christian work. One of these whom I took from school work, & put into the High school three years ago, because he seemed a promising lad, has gone off to central India. Another to whom Mr. Smith was looking as a future Christian teacher in his school, has gone to Bombay, & entered Government service. Both of these young men were in Christian schools from childhood, & as young men maintained a fair Xn character. But they are not necessarily drawn to Christian work, as thousands of Xn young men in America are not led to the ministry.

We would be very glad of some such men as you refer to in the Church Missionary Society, well educated, & able to write Eng. articles for the magazines. But I would prefer *for missionary work* such a man as Pastor Vishnupunt of our mission to any one I have known in other missions. I wish his son Sumantrao, who seems to have much of his father's spirit & zeal, could be induced to give up his plan of visiting America, & give himself to evangelistic work as his father did. Dr. Mackichan, of the Free Church Bombay, was speaking a few weeks ago of visits to England & America, & said they were greatly to be deprecated. But I said, they did not spoil Mr. Narayan Sheshadri, did they? No, he replied, they did not spoil him, but I am afraid they spoiled his family. His children have not been the help to the missionary work which it was hoped they might be.

But I must bring this long letter to a close. I am afraid the impression on your mind may be different from what I wish it to be. I would not have you think that I wish to keep back from a higher Xn education any whom it is likely to fit for higher usefulness. But I cannot ignore facts & results which I have seen & am seeing all the time. And these, if they teach anything, teach us that we must use with care the stimulus of higher education among our Christian agents & churches. I would make use of the College, & High School, & Theol. Sem. to develop & improve the Christian character of our native agents & young men just as far as possible. But there are dangers all along this line; & we shall not escape them by shutting our eyes to them.

I wish you could read over this letter with Dr. Fairbank & Mr. Bruce, & ask them with regard to the facts stated. When the question of assembling a Theol. class this month was raised in our mission meeting in May, a large majority thought it was not expedient. There are already 19 licensed preachers & evangelists from whom the churches not supplied with pastors could call a pastor if necessary. But they cannot support a pastor, nor half support him. There are not other candidates whom it seems important to bring into a class just at present. Several of them are so young that it would be better for them to teach a year or two longer before taking the Theol. course. We wish to use the seminary for the good of our native agents — not to bring together a class of students for the sake of keeping the seminary in a flourishing condition. It would be quite possible to overdo the matter in this direction.

I wish I could say something about the two letters sent home in regard to the work in Bombay. My first feeling is one of deep regret that there should be such a marked division in the mission. It came before us in connection with the question of urging the purchase of large & expensive new premises in Bombay. It has been said that the Board are ready to purchase, but the mission blocks the way. The reply was, if the Board are so considerate as to make large grants when the mission asks them, the responsibility on our part is all the greater to be careful & not ask them without the best reason, & for the best purposes. This led to the preparation of a paper at some length, showing why we were not ready to ask such a large grant for Bombay, & so greatly extend our work there. I was sorry that some looked upon it as a personal matter, & charged the mission (majority) with taking the opportunity when three member of the mission were absent, who they knew would vote with Bombay (Brs. Fairbank & Bruce in America, & Bro. Sibley was ill.) to put on the screws at Bombay. I am sure there was nothing of this kind in the minds of the majority. We decided the matter last month because it came before us then, not because of any special advantage we then held. I have no doubt it was with others as well as myself a conscientious judgment of what was best in view of the facts before us.

In order that each might make a free & full statement, it was thought best that neither party should see the others paper, but both should be forwarded together to you. It was not till after I had posted the letter of the majority that I learned Mr. Hume was sending his to Mr. Abbott in England for his signature. So you may have received one a few days before the other. But this will not make much difference. I hope the young ladies who have just come out to Bombay will not receive the impression that personal & selfish reasons control us in our mission action, because we cannot always vote for just the sums it is thought are needed at a certain station. If I had drawn up the majority letter I should have modified some of the statements regarding the work in Bombay. I think there is no doubt that the influence of Bros. Hume & Abbott. & their work in Bombay are most valuable. I think they should be well sustained in their work. But as to greatly extending the work, & increasing the number of missionaries in Bombay, I agree with the arguments in the paper.

I fear I owe you an apology for such a long letter. I have written the more freely, because this is not an official letter from the Secretary, but a private letter from one of the missionaries.

With sincere Xn regards.

Most fraternally yours.

L. Bissell

At last accounts Mr. Sibley was still seriously ill.

hmednagar, June 18, '88.

Rec'd July 8.

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Ahmednagar, India
20th Aug. 1888.

Rev. Dr. Clark. Sec.
A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

You will probably have heard by the mail of last week of the death of Bro. Sibley at Satara on the 13th inst. He had been laid aside since his severe attack at Panchgani last April. but at one time was so much better that he could sit up, and the Doctor told him he might yet do some work in Satara. Our hopes were greatly encouraged. But about three weeks ago he became worse, & the doctor gave no hope that he would rally again. On the 6th inst. Mrs. Bissell & myself, at Mrs. Sibley's request, went to Satara to stay with her, & as it proved, be with her during the last week of his life. For three or four days previous to his death his mind wandered, or he was unconscious, & could give no clear statement as to his feelings in view of the great change which was so near. But back of all was his earnest, devoted life, & we needed no words to assure us that he was ready to depart & be with Christ.

Mrs. Sibley has had the care of him in his long illness, night & day, & has kept a wonderful courage & cheerfulness even to the last. We were glad we could be with her during her great trial, & do something to help & comfort her. She knows the true source of comfort, & the grace of God has wonderfully strengthened her. We invited her to come to Nagar with us, & stay here till our October meeting, & she had other cordial invitations from other stations. But after thinking over the matter she said, if one of the young ladies from Bombay will come & stay with me, I would like to remain here till Oct., & do what work I can. So it was arranged that Miss Millard should come & stay with her two months, & she reached Satara the same day we left. Mrs. Sibley will find much to occupy her thoughts, & will perhaps be happier than if left more to herself without any work. Her remaining there also provides temporarily for Satara; & no missionary could well be spared to go there at present.

We are very glad to hear that Mr. McCullock is under appointment to come out & take Mr. de Regt's place in the Mission College. He will be here none to soon. Mr. Smith is under the Doctor's care for two weeks; & is just recovering from an attack of bronchitis. The physician tells him that his system is in a low state, & that there is a tendency to hardening in the lower part of the lungs, which might if neglected develop into consumption. He has ordered a nourishing diet, light work, & a vacation as soon as possible. And he tells Mr. Smith that he must not spend another hot season in India; which means that he must arrange to take a furlough in March next. It will be well if Mr. McCullock can have a few months association with Mr. Smith before taking charge of the Institution. I write this today at Mr. Smith's request.

I have not yet acknowledged your letter of June 26th. I was very glad to get the suggestions it contained, & as usual I have circulated a copy of the letter in the mission that all might see it. It will do good, & I trust will prepare the way for such further action as the Prudential Committee may take after full consideration of the Bombay question. There was no misunderstanding in regard to the Rs 23.000, as that this was to come out of our regular appropriations. We understood that *that* was a special grant. But in making out the yearly estimates we are limited to a certain sum for the whole mission. Then of course expensive operations at one station diminish the allowances for all the others. An allowance for a single teacher on Rs 50. or Rs 60. per mo. to teach an advanced class of three or four pupils, means the closing of four or five village schools in the Deccan. Then it may be a serious question whether it is more important that these few pupils should be carried up to the matriculation standard, or that 10 or 15 times that number of pupils should have an elementary education. It has been suggested that the Prudential Committee should decide what part of the sum assigned as the ~~amount~~ limit of our annual estimates should be appropriated to Bombay, & what part to the Deccan districts.

whether this would be a satisfactory adjustment of the difficulty I do not know. We will wait till we hear further from you.

The evangelistic work for which we planned has not been carried out as we had hoped. I greatly regret this. Sumantrao was encouraged to open an English school at Parel, & then he found he could not be spared from the school without dissatisfaction among the pupils & their parents. After much urging he came one week to Sholapur the fore part of this month. Mr. E. S. Hume then wrote me that he could not be spared again till after Mr. Abbott returned in October. Mr. R. A. Hume & myself went to Bombay, & after some urging it was agreed that he might come one week more this month, & one next month. The mission never would have asked the special grant if they had supposed Sumantrao was to be engaged in teaching an Eng. school. With a definite resolution that he should be "employed as an evangelist," I cannot understand how it was considered right to have him spend his time in teaching English in a school. The matter will be talked over in our October meeting, but then five of the seven months will have passed away. An English teacher could be employed for half the salary we have asked for him.

So we move on, making many mistakes, & we hope doing some good: not as much as we might I fear, & we are sometimes sad in thinking of it. But the wise Master will overrule all so as in the end to accomplish His good purposes, & glorify His blessed name.

As ever most fraternally yours
L. Bissell

Ahmednagar, Aug. 20. 88.
Rec'd Sept. 19.

Ahmednagar
27th Aug. 1888

Rev. Dr. Clark. Secretary.
A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Your letter of July 31st came to hand this morning, just in time for a brief reply by todays mail.

1. The letter of Mr. N. A. Dyer of the Mystic Church, Medford, must for some reason have failed to reach me, or it would have received prompt attention. I will send you a note with this letter which you can forward to him.

2- The Committee appointed to visit Bombay, (Mr. R. A. Hume & myself,) did not hasten to Bombay after our May meeting, as Mr. Abbott was away, (on his furlough to England,) & the new premises to be rented being in part for him & his sister, it was desirable that his choice should be regarded in selecting them. Also, as his suite of rooms could be utilized in his absence, the crowding in the house at Byculla need not be great till his return.

3 - Having occasion to visit Bombay on other business the first of this month, (we) the committee went with Mr. E. S. Hume to see the premises which he & Mr. Abbot had urged the mission to purchase last May. We looked both at those, & also other bungalows & lots in the neighborhood. But as we had not yet heard from the Prudential Committee in reply to our letters of May; & as the majority of the mission were not in favor of purchasing large & expensive premises in Bombay; the Committee simply limited themselves to investigations, that they might be prepared to report to the mission when called upon. Meanwhile permission to rent a bungalow in Bombay has been received; but this will not probably be done until Mr. Abbott returns in October.

4 - As I wrote you last week, Miss Millard has gone to Satara to be with Mrs. Sibley in her bereavement. Miss Lyman we hear is coming to Ahmednagar this week, to spend some time here. It may be well also to

bear in mind that Mr. & Mrs. E. S. Hum
have been thirteen years in India, &
humanly speaking must soon take a
furlough. If another missionary should
be sent to take their place in Bombay, with
a smaller family, the present accommodation might be sufficient. If, however, the Prudential Committee purpose to ~~enlarge~~ increas
the present missionary force in Bombay,
we shall need either to rent or purchase
another house.

The premises which we saw on Clare Road, (those which the Bombay brethren recommended the mission to purchase), are in a good situation, & the bungalow is a large one. With some changes it may be made very useful for mission purposes. The owner asks for it Rs52.000. The committee did not think the price extravagant, considering the surroundings & the price which lots are commanding in that neighborhood. The changes to be made, & other expenses would probabbly carry the sum up to Rs60,000, or something over $20.000. How much of this can be raised in Bombay by the church, & by selling one or two lots not needed by the mission, & by Gov't grant for a dormitory, I do not know. Perhaps one fourth. Still, if the decision is to purchase & not rent, I do not think better premises can be found for the work of the mission in Bombay.

The want of rain is being very seriously felt here. No rains have yet fallen to enable the cultivators to sow. All the early crops are lost. Now is the time of the latter rains, & we hope & pray that they may not fail.

With Christian regards

as ever sincerely yours.

L. Bissell

I enclose the letter for Mr. Dyer – Please see if the instructions are definite enough –

Rev. L. Bissell.
Ahmednuggar, Aug. 27. 1888.
Rec'd Sep. 24.

Ahmednagar Sept. 8. 1888

Rev. Dr. Clark Secretary

My dear Sir

Your letter of Aug 1st addressed to our daughter Emily, was received on the third of this month. She has written you recently in regard to the girls' school, and will probably write again soon, more particularly in reply to yours. But at the same time. I should like to answer some of your questions myself. This school was my special work for many years, and I have followed the girls as they have gone forth year after year, and kept myself informed concerning them.

It is true that most of the village schools of our Mission are taught by students of the C. V. E. S. but this is not because our young women have not been fully competent to teach them. I cannot speak for the state of society in Madura, but it would neither be acceptable or safe to send young unmarried women out as teachers anywhere in this Presidency that I know of. — It is now about twenty years since a Normal class was first started in this school. It was done in response to a proposal from the Indian Female Normal school and Instruction Soc. of England to support five pupils if we could arrange for such a class. This has proved very helpful, giving the girls practice in teaching during their last two or more years in the school, and the grant of Rs. 250 per year which they offered, and have continued to send regularly, has been quite a boon. I have before me now a list of fifty six names of young women who have become teachers after completing their course of study here. Of these, twenty four have taught some time in the school itself first, and then found their way to other schools or other spheres of effort, as Bible women, either employed or working voluntarily. Fifteen have taught in various places, many years, with marked success. Three have been teaching in the Bombay school, two of whom have been highly valued, and another is also engaged in teaching in connection with our Mission there. Eleven have taught in Govt. schools for terms of several years each. Pupils from this school have been employed as teachers in seven different Missions besides our own, and they have usually given satisfaction. Two were in Mrs. Winsor's employ in Satara several years, and she has often expressed her very warm appreciation of their character and work. Three only of the fifty six had left the school before the Normal class was instituted. But with the exception of those who have taught in this school, only four became teachers before they were married, and they had schools in the villages where their fathers lived.

I was quite recently speaking with one of our most intelligent Native Christians who has been a teacher many years, and is well informed as to the state of education throughout the country. He said there was not a girls' school in the Presidency that had sent out as many teachers as this. And when I asked what he thought was the reason, he replied in substance as follows. "There is not a school in which the Marathi language is so well and thoroughly taught as in this. The girls speak, read and write the language remarkably well, and have a good knowledge of its grammar, not to mention the other common branches which are perhaps as well taught in other schools. These things make them desirable teachers for our common schools. The great mass of girls are not going to study English. The most that is hoped is, that they may read and write well, and have a fair knowledge of Gram. Geog. & Arith, and possibly the History of that part of the country in which they reside. Girls who have studied a good deal of English, especially if they have matriculated, that is, gone through the High school course, will not teach in the common schools. They want higher pay than they can usually get in connection with Missions. They look for situations in such schools as the Poona High school, or some Prince Institution, where they are not allowed to speak of Christianity." I know that much of this is true, and it is a pity.

Our school at present takes girls through what is called the seventh standard, that is, through the third Eng. Reader, and branches corresponding to the 1st Grammar schools at home, including a knowledge of a large part of the Bible, good plain sewing and a few kinds of fancy work most of which will be useful to them afterwards. At the same time they are doing all the work of their boarding circles, superintended by a matron. Few girls can complete this course in less than ten years, and most would require more than that. I know nothing of girls in Madura, but these girls of Mahr. origin are not robust in health. Their mothers and grandmothers before them had poor constitutions, often not having had a sufficient supply of nourishing food, but by dint of spending most of their time in the open air, they managed to live on an average to middle age. These girls have good plain substantial food in the boarding circles, and as much out door exercise as we can give them, yet the confinement tells upon their health. They are often ailing. Many become quite weary looking and fagged before they have finished the course, and afterward when married and they have gone out to live in some village home, with their household cares & other duties taxing their strength, we are pained to hear from one and another that they are suffering from ill health.

They seem to have little energy left, and hence have no ambition to read and continue the improvement of their minds. Dr. Ballantine was deploring this state of things only a few days since. It was to arouse them to habits of study enough at least to keep up their knowledge of the Bible, that we instituted the Bible lessons and semi yearly examinations for the Christian women.

Reasons such as these have gone far to repress my enthusiasm for the higher education of these girls. Our aim has been, hitherto, to fit them to be useful women, either as teachers or wives and mothers. In the village or common schools where they will teach, no Eng. is required. Education of girls in all the villages, where it is in progress at all, is simply elementary. A girl in a village who can read well is regarded as quite accomplished. Here and there we find two or three such among the higher castes, whose parents have had the courage to send them to the Govt. school for boys. (Lately, in many of the larger towns, Govt. has started schools for girls, some of which are taught by mistresses who have been trained in the Govt. Normal schools for young women, in Poona and Ahmedabad. These mistresses are either married women or widows, of high caste. Three Brahman widows have recently gone from here to prepare to teach, in the Poona Normal school. The Govt. schools in which our Christian young women have taught, have been principally in those connected with the sepoy regiments.) But it was the many, many small villages that I had in mind, and particularly education among the native Christians and lower castes. It is wonderful, the interest these poor ignorant people soon begin to manifest in a school in which their own children are taught. They are very proud of their attainments, as fast as any appear. They listen with eagerness and pleasure to the reading of the first little primer & the repeating of the multiplication table, and no wonder, it is the dawning of something like intelligence in their homes, and then, for their boys education gives promise of future service which will secure a livelihood. With the girls it is different. Though their parents may be pleased to have them know how to read, and so seem in advance of others, yet learning for them does not mean any special benefit, and in their extreme poverty they do not know how to spare them for school. Every girl large enough to look after a few goats, or care for the baby while her mother is out after grass or sticks or bark, or something that will bring food, is brought into requisition. A little help to such girls, say an allowance of from twenty five to fifty cents a month to the poorest, or to others only sufficient clothing to make it decent to have them in a school of boys, would in most cases secure their attendance. Some of us have been accustomed to make little grants of this kind to needy ones, and ~~such~~ they are now among the bright promising girls of this school, who but for this aid would have remained in ignorance. It seems to me a serious question whether funds so difficult to secure should be applied so largely to the higher education of the few, and the many be left to grope in darkness. As far as my influence goes I should use it to further if possible the primary education of girls in the villages rather than raise the standards of our central schools so high to gratify the few. The number of girls who are able to go through the higher standards is very small, sometimes only two or three are found equal to completing the High school course. In our present seventh standard there are only three girls, and now the question arises, shall we add another standard to provide for these or a part of them if they wish to study farther. The principal argument used in favor of this, is, that such provision is made in the Bombay school, and it is urged that if the mission can do this in Bombay where such an arrangement is much more expensive, they can certainly make similar provision in the Deccan. But I think if instead of pursuing their studies farther the girls were to utilize what they have learned by teaching, it would be more really beneficial to them. This should be only for a few hours a day at first, lest it be a tax upon their health, and they might at the same continue their English if they desired. If, however, the girls and their parents are very urgent for the High school course, I think they should be allowed to make their own arrangements and defray the expenses themselves. The Mission ought not to support them further, since it is no thirst for knowledge, or earnest desire to be fitted for greater usefulness that prompts them to wish it. It was at one time decided by the Mission that this (meeting their own expenses) should be the rule, but the three girls who went from our school to the one in Bombay in Nov. last, did not arrange for themselves regarding their expenses.

So much I have felt it right to say in regard to the education of girls in our Mission schools. In regard to the Christian influence of the school, it will be noticed from the Reports, that from year to year a goodly number of pupils are received into the church. Very few leave the school without having taken this stand. Perhaps Emily may write you more particularly on these points. The principal aim of the school, from dear Mrs. Ballantine's days up to the present time, has always been, to prepare and send forth truly Christian women.

With kind regards, very sincerely yrs. M. E. Bissell

Ahmednagar. Sept. 8. 1888

Ahmednagar, India
27th Sept. 1888.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark.
Secy. A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Your letter of Aug. 22d was received two days ago. In it is given the report of the Sub-committee of the Prudential Committee on Bombay matters. I am not surprised that conflicting statements are found in the two papers. The two parties wrote from their own stand-point, & on some questions of expediency, if not of fact, their views are very different. Neither party has yet seen the paper sent home by the other party. But as the question is now recommitted to us, it will be necessary for us to know what representations have been sent home.

I notice that in all your letters of late you speak of the crowding of Mr. E. S. Hume & family into two rooms, & you beg the mission to provide more house room for Mr. Hume's family.

If there has been any representation sent home that the mission were not ready to provide all needed house-room for the members of the mission & their families in Bombay, it is a great mistake. There has been no ~~thing~~ neglect of the kind. No request has been ~~referred~~ sent to the mission for permission to rent, except that presented at the May meeting, which was voted at once; & the permission was long ago granted by the Prudential Committee. The question of providing sufficient house accommodation in Bombay, & that of purchasing another fifty thousand rupee bungalow, are two quite distinct questions: tho' they may have been made to appear nearly identical. The house accommodation the mission has been ready to supply; but for the purchase of another expensive bungalow they have not yet given their approval.

The Committee you have appointed here to re-consider the whole matter, & present if possible a united report, will attend to it in the coming month, when the annual meeting of the mission takes place, & the result will be communicated to you without delay.

The Governor of Bombay, Lord Reay, has visited Ahmednagar this week; & he came into ~~visited~~ our schools & chapel, showing the most marked interest in our work. He made a short address to our native agents & other Christians assembled to meet him in the chapel, & also to the students of the High School. He urged the Christians to be of good courage, ~~&~~ work faithfully for the Master — that great results were not generally achieved by short, impulsive efforts, but by patient & long continued labors. He urged them to continued effort remembering the promise, "cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days". Seeing one of our Bible Readers, an old man who had been 40 years in the service, he said, "I should like to take that man's hand"; & he did so."

The question what can be done for the relief of the people, in view of the long continued drought, was also discussed with the Collector. And it is satisfactory to know that the attention of Government is directed to this subject if action is needed. But relief in some measure has come this week by the copious rains that have fallen in many parts of the district. Although the rain is late, the people will sow; & if we have another fall of rain in November, we may hope that famine will be averted.

Immediately after his departure, His Excellency telegraphed back to the Collector as follows - "will the American Mission take charge of 120 Christian Slaves landed at Aden". This seemed to us a large question, but when the particulars are learned, we may be able to answer it. At present we offered our assistance in looking after the boys & girls among them, those not over 20 years of age. Mr. Winsor could perhaps take some more at Sirur, & others could be provided for here in Nagar; government meeting all expenses. As yet we have no further news beyond that contained in the telegram.

Two weeks ago, Mrs. Bissell & myself went out to Kolgaum (22 miles South of Ahmedr.) & held evangelistic services with the church at that place. Sumantrav came from Bombay, & was with us four days. He has some special qualifications for this kind of work, & our Christians enjoyed the services very much, & seemed spiritually refreshed. Several Native Christians came from distant villages, & brought Hindu friends with them. Sumantrav took the lead of most of the services & made them very profitable. Two adults were received to the church. One teacher brought six Hindu friends with him from a village 25 miles distant, & they staid six days. Before they left they declared themselves fully satisfied that Christ is the true Savior, & their purpose to confess Him in baptism. They urged that a Bible woman might be sent to their village to instruct their wives, & prepare them to receive Christ also. How little of the work that is pressing upon us can we do. "Here a little, & there a little", but long reaches of district intervening that are not yet cultivated. We are thankful that something is being done, & pray that the Lord would bless these "five loaves & two fishes" that they may suffice for the many thousands around us.

We shall think of you all as in the annual meeting at Cleveland next week, & trust a great blessing may be granted to that assembly.

In the service of Christ,
as ever sincerely yours,
L. Bissell

Ahmednagar, Sept. 27, /88,
Rec'd Oct. 29.

Ahmednagar
Rev. Dr. Clark. Sec. Nov. 1st 1888
A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Enclosed is a copy of the report of the Committee dated Oct. 24, '88 on Bombay matters, named in your letter of Aug. 22/88. I think it will be satisfactory to you that the Committee have prepared a paper which all of them could sign, thus obviating the necessity of again sending a majority & minority report. Yet you will notice that there are differences of opinion in regard to some of the details of mission policy, as in the 6th paragraph.

The suggestion in the last para. of the report, that the Committee should have authority to purchase suitable premises if they are found, without reference home, is contained in your letter of Aug. 1st to Mr. R. A. Hume. Of course this liberty need not be used unless some advantage is to be gained by prompt action. If this is approved by the Prudential Committee, the sum to be made available for this use might be deposited with our mission Treasurer, subject to the call of the Committee.

It is out of the question for us to send an exact statement of what will be the cost of a lot, or of a bungalow, before we have a particular site in view, offered at a certain price. The Committee will do the very best they can to secure the premises & buildings at reasonable prices. It was no choice of our own that either Mr. Gates or myself should be on this Committee; but we were urged to allow our names to be inserted in the recommendation.

It would seem that some representations have been sent home to the effect that the mission are not willing to have the ladies in Bombay obtain another house for their use. Without supposing this it is not easy for us to understand the repeated injunctions which have come from you to provide at once better accommodations for the members of our mission in Bombay. But if such representations have been sent to you by any one, they are an utter mistake, to use no harsher term. The one thing proposed by the

Bombay brethren which the mission declined to approve, was to urge the Prudential Committee to purchase the Clare Road property. No wish was expressed to rent a house then, & indeed, as Mr. Abbott was to be absent till October, no additional house was needed. They have full liberty to rent another house, & as Mr. Abbott & his sister are now there, they will no doubt do so.

I wish it were possible for either yourself or Dr. Smith, or some member or representative of the Prudential Committee, to make a visit to your Marathi mission at this juncture. It would be very helpful to us I am sure. On the ground here it would be very easy for you to understand many things which will never be fully comprehended thro' letters - we hesitate to write things which we know to be true, but which could be seen & heard without reflecting upon any one. Is it not possible to arrange such a visit, & help us thro' the difficulties which now beset us? Perhaps Bro. Bruce would come with a deputation if they should come next year. If the expense is thought of as an objection, I will suggest that it may save many times the amount in years to come. I hope the matter may be found both feasible & expedient.

With Christian regards
as ever sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Ahmednagar, Nov. 1. 1888.
Rec'd Dec. 3.

On Special report

Ahmednagar.
Nov. 1st 1888.

Rev. Dr. Clark, Sec.

My dear Sir.

I send you at the request of Mr. Smith the accompanying letter from him. It will show you how very strong are the convictions of some members of the mission in regard to the position taken in the majority letter last May — I could wish that Bro. Smith had not felt it his duty to take such an extreme measure as to resign his connection with the mission. It ~~is~~ seems very doubtful to me whether this is the best way to meet the difficulty. At least I do not purpose to withdraw at present, or while life & strength are given me for labor. But it is right you should know ~~that~~ other members of the mission also feel very strongly on this subject. Bro. Smith sent this letter from Bombay, whither he had gone to meet Mr. McCullough & then to take his sea voyage — He wished me to read the letter to the mission, &

then forward a copy to you, which I have done.

Very sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Ahmednuggur Nov. 1, 1888.
Rec'd Dec. 3.

re letter of Mr. Smith.

Ahmednagar
Nov. 1st 1888.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

I send you herewith a copy of the minutes of our Mission meeting held in the last half of October. The first three Resolutions will be readily understood. We were thankful that Mr. McCullough reached Bombay in season to meet Mr. Smith before he left on his sea voyage. We hope the latter will return in greatly improved health next January.

Res. 4. & 5. also explain themselves. We have no missionary who can be spared to take the place of Bro. Sibley at Satara. Each of our Stations needs the entire force connected with it; & no one can be detached from his present district without leaving important work to drag on without efficient superintendence. We were glad therefore that Mrs. Sibley was disposed to remain at Satara, & continue the work which Mr. Sibley & herself have been carrying on the past two years.

The Native Christians are attached to her, & will do all they can to help her: & we are sure her influence over them will be of the very best character.

Res. 6. All the same, however, Satara & Wai need two mission families; & if there were three missionaries in charge of different parts of the district, they would not need to jostle each other in the least. We hope therefore that this Resolution will receive the prompt & earnest attention of the Prudential Committee. As Bro. Bruce, one of our Satara missionaries, is now near you, I will trust him to make any further representations which may be necessary.

Res 8. A dozen candidates for this class were mentioned, but as there are still 7 months before they come together, the selection can be made next May. We think a good class can be secured. Some of the candidates, however, are among our very best teachers, & are now occupying positions of usefulness. We sometimes hesitate to interrupt the work of such a man, for it is not altogether outside of our experience thus to lose a good teacher, & get but an indifferent preacher. But we hope to make up a class of fairly good material. &

without robbing other departments of our work.

Res 10. These rules are adopted for our guidance in order to avoid misunderstandings, & to secure the judicious use of mission funds in aiding only those who are worthy of help, & only to the extent which is necessary. Some of the Christians, if dissatisfied with the received, are ready to take their children out of the school near at hand, & send them to a distant station where it will cost twice as much to support them. Such recklessness must be checked by concerted action on the part of those who have charge of the schools.

Res. 11. When we prepare our estimates in May, we try to look forward carefully, & see what will be the demands of our work. But we find it impossible to anticipate fully our wants for the coming year. Hence we find it necessary to ask special grants to supplement the estimates in certain points. But such requests for special grants require to be supported by the best of reasons in order to secure a vote of the mission. They are not popular with us, & I fear cannot be with the Prudential Committee.

Res. 12. We have found Sumantrao's labors very helpful in the few places which he has visited; & we wish to retain him in the service longer if possible. He declines to engage definitely beyond March next, as he thinks he may wish to visit America next year. We think he is well fitted to be useful among his people, & earnestly wish he would forego the visit to America for the sake of continuing his work as an evangelist. He has now gone to Rahuri for a week, & next week I hope to accompany him to Sirur.

The other resolutions are mostly in the line of our regular work, & I think will be readily understood without my remarking upon them.

With Christian regards
as ever sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Ahmednuggur Nov. 1. 1888.
Rec'd Dec. 3.

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Ahmednagar
27th Dec. 1888.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Your letter of Nov. 22d containing a statement of appropriations for the Marathi Mission for 1889, was received on the 25th inst. — & was a very valuable Christmas present. We are thankful that the Prudential Committee could see their way to grant us our regular estimates entire. And tho' the "contingents" are still contingent, we shall hope to get them in the course of the year. The addition for Mr. McCullough's allowances is just about what will be needed; & the reduction at Satara, Mrs. Sibley's allowance instead of the sum needed for a family, is what she would expect — I notice nothing is added for Dr. Fairbank, who is on the way out, but the usual allowance will also be granted for him. We can now form our plans definitely for the work of the coming year.

Recent letters from Mr. Smith are very encouraging as to his restoration to health. He was at Sydney when he wrote, & hoped to be back here before the end of January.

Your letter of Nov. 23^d came on the same day with the other, & contains suggestions worthy of our attention. We have not yet collected the statistics for this year, & I do not know how they will compare with those of last year. It is not strange that there should be more persons received to the churches some years than others. It would be so both in prosperous missions, & in those less flourishing. I do not attach so much importance to that one item, nor consider it an index of the faithfulness of the workers. Yet we know that to those observing at a distance the number of baptisms is an important factor in their estimate of the success of our work - Taken for a decade, or a larger number of years, it might indicate more truly the character of the work than it would in comparing one year with another.

The thoughts which you have suggested in regard to the admission to church membership of those asking baptism, have often been before us; & the question has been much discussed by the members of different missions. Our effort has been to maintain a judicious mean — not going to extremes either in receiving too hastily, or delaying too long. And we seek the guidance both of the word & the Holy Spirit. To my own mind some aspects of our work are encouraging, notwithstanding the small accessions to our churches.

Thank you for the telegram of the 17th inst. telling us to "retain Sumantrov" in our work — I hope he will give up his plan of going to America, but am not at all sure he will. There are inconsiderate men often ready to assist a native Christian in such a project, who would give very little to help on our ordinary work.

You may have seen some explanation of the term "Christian slaves", in regard to the captives landed at Aden. It appears they were from Abyssinia, & the Copts of that country have a kind of nominal Christianity, which unfortunately does not include morality as an essential part. I think an arrangement was made with some other mission to take charge of these liberated slaves, & we are not sorry.

We shall hope to hear from you soon in reference to letters forwarded Nov. 1st — the minutes of our Oct. meeting, & the report of the Committee on Bombay matters. &c —

With Christian regards
Ever Sincerely Yours
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell D.D.
Ahmednagar
Dec. 7, 1888.

Ahmednagar India
31st Jan. 1889.

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

I send with this a brief report of the district under my care for the past year. Two days ago I recd your letter of Dec. 28th 1888. We are very glad to be able to keep Sumantrao a part of this year, & we shall all be glad if he gives up his purpose to visit America, & continues his evangelistic labors in connection with our mission. This month he has been with Mr. Abbott to Lalitpur, up in Central India. Last month he was prevented from coming to any of our districts in the Deccan by sickness in his family. So it is two & a half months since any of our districts have enjoyed the benefit of his labors, & it will probably be some weeks or months longer.

I sympathize with much that you say in regard to the unfruitfulness of the Marathi mission. Yet as I look back upon the years that I have spent here, I also see much for which I thank God & take courage. Instead of the little Church of a score of members. I have now charge of six Churches with 460 communicants. Of these there were recd to the Church on

confession of faith at Ahmednagar	22
In Kolgav & Khandala	4
In the three new Churches	19
or in all the past year	55

If it be asked if this "satisfies" me, I should reply that depends upon what it meant by the word - I am not satisfied that one in a thousand of the people among whom I labor should come to Christ - I am not sure that I have done all I could for the salvation of these thousands - Nor am I certain that I always lab in the very best possible way, or lead our helpers to work in the best way - But I am satisfied that I am not spending my strength for noug but see some tangible fruits of our labors, & see evidence that God is with u

& gives us tokens of His favor, & that we do see triumphs of His grace — & in this I rejoice, & will rejoice — As I said in a previous letter, I do not take the number of adults received to the church in a given year as an index of the work or results of that particular year. I find a great difference in such results. Sometimes after a series of years of constant labors, there is an ingathering which is the fruit of all those years of work —

But I must close this letter abruptly, or lose this week's mail.

Yours in faith & hope that the gospel is to triumph in India.

With Christian regards

L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell, S

Ahmednagar, Jan. 31, 1889,

Rec'd Mar. 2.

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Ahmednagar, India
6th March 1889

Rev. Dr. Clark, Sec. of the
A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Your letter of Jan. 2d '89 was rec'd just a month ago. With it you forwarded the recommendations of the Prudential Committee in regard to the purchase of new premises, providing a new chapel, &c. at Bombay. The Prudential Committee adopted most of the recommendations sent home by our Committee of missionaries. I sent a copy of your letter & the report to the Brethren in Bombay, & other members of the mission. I do not see how the Prudential Committee could have granted more than they have; nor do I think it is necessary to grant more at present. I understand that the Committee of three missionaries designated here are not to use any part of the Rs 46.000 until we hear again from you that the funds can be secured, & are available

Ahmednagar, Mch. 6, '89.
Rec'd Apr. 3.

for the purposes mentioned. The brethren in Bombay, however, are moving in the matter of obtaining a new site for a chapel; as you intimated that there need be no delay in regard to that part of the work, the expense of which is to be provided for by the sale of property in Bombay.

Bro. Gates says he prefers not to act on the Committee, & I think has written you on the subject - I am sorry he declines to act, as I think the mission consider him the proper person to be on the Committee. I hope he may yet be induced to act with Mr. Abbott & myself, as the work to be done does not threaten to be onerous for the present.

With Christian regards

As ever Sincerely yours

L. Bissell

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(Munroe House,)
(Mahableshwar)
Ahmednagar
25th April 1889.

Rev. Dr. Clark
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of March 22d, inquiring how many "new missionaries are imperatively needed for our mission", was recd this morning, & as our homeward mail leaves today, I hasten to give you a few words in reply. I have only had time to consult the brethren at this station, (Messrs. Winsor, R. A. Hume, & Abbott,) but we are agreed that the following men are needed in our mission as soon as they can be found. We will give the matter fuller consideration in our mission meeting next month; but I am confident all will endorse the following request.

1. One ordained missionary is needed at Ahmednagar, able to take part in the work in connection with the Theol. Seminary, or High School, or

in the rural districts, as may be required. All those now in charge of these departments of labor are worked up to the full measure of their strength

2. One ordained missionary for Satara - Even if Mr. Bruce returns & Mrs. Sibley continues her work, a second missionary should be stationed permanently at Satara.

3. One ordained missionary at Bombay, when Mr. C. S. Hume leaves, (as he probably will next year,). Mr. Abbott should not be left without a ~~another~~ missionary associate, even with the good help that is afforded by the three ladies in our mission at Bombay.

4. A missionary, or assistant missionary at Sirur. Mr. Winsor I think is writing you today in regard to a Mr. Jolly of Toronto - Many of the Missionary Societies are sending out lay missionaries; & in the dearth of ordained candidates, it may be thought best to utilize such laborers. There is

an especial call for a Mechanic in connection with the Industrial school at Sirur: & if the certificates ~~of~~ in regard to Mr. & Mrs. Yolly are satisfactory, I think it might be well to send them to Sirur.

5 - A medical missionary lady at Ahmednagar, as voted by the mission a year ago. (See Resn 5. of our Minutes of May 1888.)

The above are urgently needed to keep our work properly in hand without any great extension. We might ask many more laborers to enable us to extend the work in the districts already occupied, & left by other societies to our mission.

Excuse a hurried letter today - I have tried to write to the point, though but briefly.

Ever Sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell

Ahmednagar. Apr. 25, 1889

Rec'd May 25

Ackd Oct 17.

Ahmednagar. India
(now at Mahableshwar)
May 2d 1889.

Rev. Dr. Clark. Secretary
A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Yesterday I received your two letters of March 26th. & one of March 30th. I am very glad to see your letter to Sumantrao, (he is not "Rev.") & hope it will lead him to give up his proposed visit to America. He was to reach some decision this month. Your letter will also help to correct an impression which some of our native agents have had, that the missionaries were holding them back from an advanced position, & increased allowances, which the Home Committee were quite ready to grant. I shall try to use your letter to correct such an impression.

2- In regard to single ladies for our mission, I think if Miss Hattie Bruce comes out with her parents, she would either be an associate for Mrs. Sibley, or for

Emily in the Girls School at Ahmednagar. Then one more would fill the other vacant place. In my letter last week I urged a second missionary family for Satara, even if Mr. Bruce should return this year. This would be better than to send out a single lady to be an associate of Mrs. Sibley — though the latter arrangement might work well while all were in good health. If there were two missionary families at Satara, Mrs. Sibley could find a home with one of them, & continue her work.

3- I wrote you last week in regard to Mr. Jolly being sent out for the Industrial school. I did not think then especially of enlargement of the work; but of maintaining it efficiently in its present form. I will bring your question before the mission in our meeting this month.

4- In regard to the Evangelist. Rev. B. Fay Mills & his associate, & the expediency of their being invited to visit our mission to labor a few months. I will write you later, after the matter has been considered in our mission meeting.

5- You inquire in regard to Mr. McCullough & his medical work - I have not written anything in regard to him & his work, as he was especially associated with Mr. Smith, & I was absent in the districts a good part of the cold season. Perhaps he has written you before this time of his plans & work. I think the medical profession is his choice rather than teaching. He became acquainted with a young lady, Miss Rumsey by name, on his way out to India, & has since become engaged to her. It seems she is a "trained nurse", & was coming out to be connected with Mrs. Gladwin, in the House of Refuge, & the "Rescue work" in Bombay. (Mrs. Gladwin died before Miss R. reached Bombay.) Her health failed some weeks ago, & under medical advice she came to Panchgani, (about 2 weeks ago) & Mr & Mrs. Gates received her in the Mission House. Mr. McCullough came with her from Bombay, & is also stopping with the Gates. He has intimated that they are expecting to be married soon if her health will admit. He has also said to some members of the mission that he would like to go with an associate to some new field, & labor independently of the mission, & of the Board; being supported by some church or churches at home. These things he has not said to me, & I should not write of them, but that I think it right you should know them. And as he is very reticent about his plans, he may not have written fully to you. If he has asked for an associate, I think it is not to be with him in the College at Ahmednagar, but in some other field of labor.

On several of the above matters, I will write you more fully after a few weeks.

Messrs. R. A. Hume, Abbott, & myself yesterday assisted at the ordination of Hariba Gyanoba, a licentiate of the mission, as Pastor of the church at Wai, in the Satara district. Mrs. Sibley was also present. The church is small, but they agreed to pay Rs 10. per mo. towards his support. They have been paying Rs 5. to him as Catechist in charge of the church. The candidate appeared well, & the ordination exercises were full of interest. After the ordination, the Pastor of the Satara church & the newly ordained pastor administered the Lord's Supper; & the pastor baptized a child of one of the members of his ch.

very sincerely yours, L. Bissell

Ack'd Oct 7
May 31. 1887
Ahmednagar

Ahmednagar,
(now at Mahableshwar)
20th May 1889.

Rev. Dr. Clark
Secretary A.B.C.F.M.

My dear Sir,

In our mission meeting last week we passed several resolutions which I wish to send you as soon as possible, & hence copy them & forward by todays mail. I shall hope to send you a full copy of our minutes & estimates by the mail of next week.

"Voted that in reply to Dr. Clark's letter of March 22d, asking how many new missionaries are "imperatively needed" in our mission, we ask for the following to be sent out as soon as suitable persons can be found.

1. One ordained missionary for Wai, in the Satara district.— if he has medical knowledge also it would be well — & this with the expectation that Mr. Bruce will soon return to Satara.

(6) A missionary lady as an associate of Mrs. Sibley.

2. One ordained missionary for Bombay, with the expectation that Bro. E. S. Hume will soon leave on furlough – perhaps next year.

3-(a) One ordained missionary for Ahmednagar, able to take part in the work in connection with the Theol. Seminary, the High School, or in the rural districts as may be required.

(b) A Medical missionary lady at Ahmednagar, as asked in Res 5. of our minutes of May '88.

(c) A lady to be associated with Miss Emily Bissell in the Girls School, (after Miss Julia Bissell leaves next year.) – [Miss Hattie Bruce, who I understand has recently been appointed to this mission, may be willing to take this place, & if so it will be very satisfactory]

(d) An ordained missionary at Shrigonda, in the Ahmednagar Southern district.

4- An ordained missionary, or an assistant missionary for Sirur – (See elsewhere with reference to Mr. Jolly.)

5- An ordained missionary at Sholapur, in the expectation of a furlough for one of those now there at no distant day.

6. That we extend a cordial invitation to Rev John W. Ballantine to come to

Ahmednagar as a member of the Marathi Mission; & that we earnestly request the Prudential Committee to send Mr. Ballantine, even if he will come for a term of five years.

7. That in answer to the inquiry of Dr. Clark in his letter of Mch. 30th 89 in regard to the attitude of the mission towards the Industrial School at Sirur, which has been conducted by Bro. Winsor for about ten years, the mission is glad to give formal expression to the opinion that such an institution is a legitimate & desirable branch of mission work, & that the mission approves of the institution hereafter being considered a regular branch of our mission work, & that the accounts be rendered to the mission.

8. That in view of the correspondence already before us in reference to Mr. & Mrs. Jolly of Toronto, if the Prudential Committee find their testimonials satisfactory, & think them qualified to be useful in the proposed position, we approve of the Committee sending them out to Sirur".

The above is the action taken with reference to reinforcements for our mission. You will see that they have asked more than I did in my letter of Apr. 25th. We hope Mr. Ballantine will be ready to give a favorable answer to our invitation. While he was pastor of a church at Dorchester we should have hesitated to urge this matter upon him, but as he is now free from pastoral engagements, we send this invitation & trust you will second our call.

In regard to the Industrial school, I should have worded the minute a little differently if I had drawn it up. While I am ready to to consider the school a branch of our mission work, I think the current expenses, (aside from the salary of the missionary, or assistant missionary in charge,) should be met from Govt grants & donations as hitherto; & not be a charge upon the funds of the Board. Both the Bombay Govt & English Officers are very ready to help such a school: & it is an advantage to Mr. Winsor in soliciting funds to be able to say, nothing is recd from the Home Society for this school. — More next week (D.V.)

Very sincerely yours. L. Bissell

L. Bissell
Ahmednagar, May 20, 1889
Rec'd June 18
Ack'd Oct 17.
call for new missionaries
J. W. Ballantine

Ahmednagar.
(Mahableshwar).
May 25th 1889.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Sec. A.B.C.F.M.

My dear Sir,

I enclose a copy of the Minutes of our Meeting held this month, and also a copy of our Estimates for 1890. Our Mission Meeting this year was a pleasant one, nothing having come up for discussion which caused a marked difference of opinion. Of the items of business transacted I may note the following:—

No. II. I sent you a copy of this Res^{n} last week, and some remarks with regard to it. I do not think it necessary to remark upon each part of it at length. Under (3).d. I may say that Shrigonda is 36 miles South of Ahmednagar, and a Missionary at that place would have charge of a large rural district, accessible by good roads through it, and the station itself is connected with Ahmednagar and Bombay by rail. Shrigonda is a country town of about 6,000 people—no Christians there except the two Preachers and their families who are stationed there — and very few Christians in the district. But the people are friendly, and many villages are asking for Christian schools. It is an open door for any one whose heart is longing to work for Christ in making known His gospel to the lost. If a new Missionary be appointed to this field he would need an appropriation for a house, as we have asked for Hai, in our Contingent Estimates.

And here I will say a word on one point which you may already have in mind, namely, that every new Missionary who comes and enters upon work in a new district, needs not only his own allowances, but appropriations for carrying on work in the district — preachers, teachers, and Bible Women — otherwise he can do very little for the first two or three years. But with a few native agents, he can set to work at once, and be evangelizing his district. He will thus be more contented while studying the language, and becoming with the people of his district, feeling that he is already doing something for those around him. The Prudential Committee and Churches should therefore understand that sending out a new Missionary means that both the expense of his support must be supplied and that of a corps of Christian helpers associated with him, with whom and through whom he will work. I have been nominally working this district from Ahmednagar for many years, but little can be done thus, compared with what needs to be done, and might be done by a Missionary who could devote all of his time to the district.

Res.^{ns} III, IV, V. I wrote you of these last week.

Res.^{n} VI. Mr. Mills having written to me, asking some questions about his visit, which I will try to answer soon, and will send the letter through you, that you may read it before forwarding it to him.

Res.^{n} VIII. These fourteen men we think will form a good class, and we trust that their usefulness will be greatly increased by the course of study they will pursue.

Res.^{n} IX. We have heretofore consulted freely with our most intelligent Native agents, but we think the time has come when we might bring them into our meeting, when deliberating upon matters which they understand.

Res^{n} X. The Sholapur brethren will already have written you about this.

Res^{ns} XI - XV. These requests for special grants, amounting to ~~Rs~~ 2,313 are to help forward work already being carried on, and partly work taken up by Miss Abbott and Miss Millard (XII and XV) in which they are much interested and which is promising good fruit. ✓

Res^{n} XXIII. Bro. Smith will probably write you about this plan for taking over the School, and you can then better judge of its merits. The Mission thought it not advisable to take any steps in that direction at present, at least not till it should be ascertained whether a judicious and reliable body of men could be found, who will become responsible for carrying on the Institution, in case Mr. Smith is compelled to leave on account of ill health.

Res^{n} XXVI. Your telegram of the 7th inst. telling us to "retain Sumantrao" was received just as we commenced our meeting. We sent for him to come here and confer with us about his plans: but he arrived after the Mission had adjourned. His mind seems pretty much made up to go to America with his wife, and to leave next month. Therefore I did not include his allowances in the Estimates, and we shall not need to ask a special grant for more than two months, (April and May, Rs 190).

Res.n XXVII. Mr. McCullough was married to Miss Margaret Rumsay on the 21st inst.— Dr. Fairbank performed the ceremony at Panchgani— Mrs. McCullough has been out of health for two or three months, and is not yet fully recovered. But we hope she may soon be able to accompany her husband to Ahmednagar.

Res.ns XXVIII–XXX will show you on what principles we made out our Estimates for 1890. Thirty-four cents is more than the rupee has been worth the past few months. This gives just Rs 50,000 for the $17,000 the limit assigned us for general work. Our estimates exceed this by Rs 3,852. We did not think the Prudential Committee would wish us to leave out an estimate for work well in hand, and that begun by the ladies who have recently joined the Mission in Bombay, because it carried the total a little above the $17,000. We have held back from commencing new work in many promising places for want of the funds, especially for failing to get the "preferred contingents" we asked a year ago. We have asked ~~Rs~~ 4,566 of these for next year. Of course if they are received this year, we shall not want them again next year.

Res.^{n} XXX. I have prepared this abstract and send you, instead of the usual copy of our Estimates. It would seem that their term "Catechist" includes all native agents whom we designate as "licensed preachers" and "Bible Readers." The term "catechist" has been objected to in former years as indefinite, and we prefer our own designation, and retain it for use in our Mission. I do not know what distinction our Madura brethren make between "Touring" and "Itineracy," which they have charged under different heads. I have made but one item.

At the close of the copy of the Estimates for the Madura Mission which you sent me, the two divisions are entered as, "Salaries of Missionaries" and "General Work":- We have been accustomed to include "Health Changes," "Repairs of Bungalows," "Watchmen" (or Guards) &c. in the first division, as a part of the expenses of Missionaries. It makes our first division of Estimates much larger, in comparison with the second, than the divisions of the Madura Mission show. But we think such matters as "Visiting the Sanatarium", "repairs of Mission bungalows," &c. are more properly included in the 1st Division, showing the expenses of Missionaries, than in the 2nd Division. - In the Resolution in our Minutes the two Divisions are given as in former years. - After preparing the abstract carefully as I thought, I found a discrepancy between that footing and that in the Minutes; and as I had no time to go over the whole again, I inserted the discrepant balance below the first total. I dislike to send such imperfect papers, but in this case there was no alternative. - If I keep them another week, I shall be too busy to go over them again, as we are returning to Nagar this week:- the last total is correct. This month has not been a time of rest to me by any means; though at the sanatarium it is easier to work than in the heat of the plains.

Julia has helped in copying these papers, or I ~~would~~ could not have sent them today. I shall try to send the Statistical Tables for Dr. Strong a week from today.

With Christian love,
As ever sincerely yours,
L. Bissell

Rec'd June 26 - 1889.
Ack & Oct 17.

Extracts

Ahmednagar.
3d June 1889

My dear Dr. Clark.

I enclose a letter to Mr. Mills for you to read before forwarding if you wish — I hope the Lord will bring him to us, & through him will accomplish a great & good work —

I must ask Dr. Strong to wait another week for the statistics — we only reached home on Saturday, & I have had no time as yet to take hold of them.

Your letter of April 29th came today, & will receive attention.

With best regards
Ever sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell

Ahmednuggur, June 3, 1889.

Rec'd July 5. Ack'd Oct 17.

Ahmednagar
10th June, 1889

Rev. Dr. N. G. Clark
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My Dear Sir.

Your letter of May 8th reached me this morning - In it you speak of Sumantrao, & his proposed visit to America. I wish he could be persuaded not to go. But his mind is made up, or seemed so when we met him last month, & I presume he will carry out this plan. He told me he should go to Boston the first thing, & see & converse with you in regard to his plans for study or work - He was then expecting to take his wife with him, & thought he might sail about the 25th of this month. I am sure you will see much to admire & love in him & his wife - tho' we think they are acting unadvisedly in going to America. We must not judge them too severely, for they have many advisers besides ourselves, & some of these tell them to go, & that they will do much good among the churches, & get much sympathy & help — They see also that Dr. Sheshádri & Pandita Ramabai brought back a pile of money, & doubtless infer there is more in the same mine. If we give them the cold shoulder because they do not take our advice, they will not unlikely attach themselves to the Methodists, or to whoever will receive them kindly, & thus they will be lost to us — However, you have had much experience in this line, & I need not enlarge.

Mr. McCullough is sending his wife to England by the steamer which takes this mail tomorrow from Bombay. She has been nearly two months at Panchgani, but has not recovered her health, & now a sea voyage is thought indispensable — Mr. McCullough has probably written to you of his plans, & so I need not add more. I suggested to him some weeks ago that he would do well to write freely & fully to you of this change in his situation, & his wishes in view of it, & I hope he has done so.

Mr. E. S. Hume writes me that he has a still more favorable offer from the owner of the Clare Road property, of which mention is made in para. 4. of the report sent you by the Bombay Com. Nov. 1st '88 – The Proprietor has offered to take Rs 50.000 instead of Rs 52.000, which was his lowest figure last year. Mr. Hume & Mr. Abbott think that this is the best available site – & that a Govt grant can be obtained for the Girls dormitory, which will bring ~~it~~ the cost of it & the premises below the amount proposed by the Prudential Committee, Rs 46.000 – We have not yet been authorized to use any part of this Rs 46.000 to purchase premises. It is possible you may receive a telegram from them this week, asking if they may take advantage of this offer provided the Bombay Committee approve of it. They propose to utilize one half of the lower part of the bungalow itself for the girls dormitory – In this way they may not unlikely get a good large Govt grant, & thus help purchase the house. Mr. Harding will probably be back in the course of this week at his station, Sholapur; & I shall try to see him soon –

We shall be looking with great interest for for the response to our resolution in the minutes in reference to more missionaries.

As ever Sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell
Ahmednagar, June 10, 1889
Rec'd July 8.
Ack'd Oct 17.

5

Ahmednagar
1st July 1889

My dear Dr. Clark,

You will be sorry & surprised to learn that Bro. Smith is to sail for England tomorrow, on the Mail Steamer which carries this letter - So he will probably be in England before you receive this letter. I presume he will have written you of the reasons for this sudden start homeward - He had a serious attack of dysentery which weakened him a good deal, & getting up from it rather slowly, he thought he might better be away where he could recruit faster than here. As he has not asked the mission for leave to go, I presume he expects to arrange for the expense, or most of it from his own allowances. We hope Mr. McCullough will be able to keep the institution in good running order during Mr. Smith's absense, & we shall be ready to do what we can to help him do so.

The drought of last year is being repeated again this season, & we have having another dry monsoon — The last month has not given us enough rain to raise the springs, or even to start the grass for the cattle — But the Lord knows how to deal with this people to bring them most speedily to know himself —

In haste

with Christian regards

Very Sincerely yours —

P.S. Mr. Abbott will doubtless write you in regard to the telegram he rec'd from you — They (He & Mrs. B. S. A.) were not able to secure a pledge from Government for a building grant, & so the amount needed to purchase the Clare Road premises could not be raised — No meeting of the Bombay Committee was held, as there was really no proposition to come before them. yours

L. B.

Ahmednagar, July 1, 1889

Rec'd July 31 Ack'd Oct 17

Ahmednagar
12th Aug. 1889

Rev. Dr. Clark.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of the 9th of July was recd this morning, & I reply at once to save a week of time.

In regard to Sumantrao's visit to America I fully sympathize with all you say in regard to the undesirableness of it, & the embarrassment to which it may subject you. It had not occurred to me that there would be any objection to his mingling with the people on the ground of his father's leprosy. He has always mingled freely in society here, & no one that I have heard ever feared contact with him. The facts in regard to his father are that some years after the birth of his three children, black leprosy began to appear in his face, & for some years his face was somewhat deformed by it. A noted Doctor in Bombay, Dr. Bháu Daji, about that time professed to have found a remedy for the disease.

Ahmednagar, July 1, 1889

Sumantrao's father, Vishnupunt, went to Bombay, & commenced a course of treatment & dieting under Dr. Bhau Daji's directions, & continued it for months or years. In his case the disease was arrested, to the great joy of the whole Christian community; & his face again assumed much its natural appearance. He was able to continue his labors as pastor of the Bombay church till the end of his life.

His three children have all been healthy hitherto, & so far as I know, have had no indications of the leprosy having left its taint in the family — It is now ~~some~~ more than twenty years since Vishnupunt used the remedies mentioned above, & found relief — He refers to it in our Mission report for 1868. All this time Sumantrao has been an active healthy lad, & young man, & so we had almost ceased to think of the possibility of his becoming a victim of the disease from which his father once suffered. If the matter had not been suggested, I do not think there would have been any risk incurred by his going among the people of America. They may know at least that he has been with us at our table, & been engaged with us in Christian work, without our feeling any apprehension of danger. I have written thus at length in regard to this, because the one bare fact that Sumantrao's father was a leper, & that S. lived in the house with him, without any further information, might trouble many people when there was no reason for it.

I think I need not add much about Mr. McCullough. Since Mr. Smith left he has given himself earnestly to carrying on the school, & I think expects to remain in it till some one is sent to take his place. In the estimates for next year he did not ask the allowance of a married man, & I think he assumed the expense of sending his wife to England, not asking any special grant. It would seem therefore that he does not expect her to be considered a missionary of the Board, at least not for the present. You will remember that by special vote of the Prudential Committee his allowance was increased so as consider-ably to exceed the regular allowance of a single missionary—$700 a year. I regret that he has not written you freely about his marriage & future plans; tho' in truth you know nearly as much as we do. He is so reserved in regard to his personal matters that we know little about them — & only on matters pertaining to the school &c., is there any free communication.

Excuse an abrupt close

As ever Sincerely yours

L. Bissell

Ahmednagar, Aug 12. 1889.
Rec'd Sept 9. 1889.
Ack'd Oct 17. '89.
Library

Bombay Oct. 4th 1889

Rev. Dr. Clark
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.
My dear Sir,

I am here in Bombay to see our daughter, Julia, off on the Str. Oriental for London. It is three years this month since we left New York for India – She had expected to stay till next March, but she has not been well the past dry rainy season, & both the Civil Surgeon at Ahmednagar & Dr. Ballantine, our missionary physician, advised her to go this month if she could. So she has speedily arranged, & is to sail today. You will remember she had the privilege of returning at her own expense at the end of three years.

Julia is not fully decided as to taking a course of medical studies, but will be guided by the advice of friends, & considerations of health, expense, &c. after she shall reach America. Should the way seem open, I think she would be glad to prepare herself for medical work, & return to the Marathi mission after three or four years — The fact that she has the language completely at command can hardly be over-estimated as an advantage she would possess over a new candidate for the same position

We are considering the question of the purchase of the "Clare Road" property for the use of the mission here in Bombay. The Committee are nearly agreed on the terms of the purchase, but I will not write at length until the matter is fully settled.

We have been sorry to hear that you were seriously ill, & are anxious till we shall learn that you are well again, & able to continue your arduous labors.

We have not yet heard that the minutes of our May meeting & Estimates for 1890 were duly received. I presume however that you would have written inquiring why they were not sent if you had not received them. Several important items of business were reported from that meeting.

I think I have previously said that the plentiful rains of last month have relieved us of the fears of famine in the Deccan. The rains were delayed till September, as in 1888, but in that month we had a bountiful supply, & th later sowings are now going forward rapid

With Christian regards
as ever Sincerely yours
L. Bissell

Rev. L. Bissell. 5

Bombay, Oct. 4, 1889.

Rec'd Nov. 2.

Ahmednagar, 30th Oct. '84

Rev. Dr. Clark.
Secretary A. B. C. F. M.

My dear Sir.

Enclosed is a copy of the minutes of our mission meeting just closed. Most of the items of business are in the line of our regular work, & will be easily intelligible to you. A few of them may need a word of explanation.

1st Since the receipt of your telegram in July, the Bombay Committee have had under consideration the question of the purchase of the "Clare Road" property. That the location & surroundings of this property are most favorable is admitted on all hands. This of itself in a large city like Bombay is an important consideration. The next thing to be considered is how much accommodation the house will afford to the members of our mission in Bombay. I send you a rude ground plan of the house, from which you will see its dimensions, & the present division into rooms. The second floor has just about the same number of rooms, central hall &c. & is almost an exact duplicate of the lower floor. I have not marked the doors & windows, as I have not a plan of the house before me, & could not do it with perfect accuracy. Nor have I shown the dimensions of the yard, & location of the servants houses, stables &c; only the general plan of the bungalow.

It is proposed to give over the rooms north of the central hall on both floors for the dormitory & matrons room of the girls school, & to separate it from the rest of the house by a continuous wall. The two halls and rooms on the south side are for the use of the ladies in charge of the girls school, & for others as far as accommodation is afforded. The bungalow is a substantial, well-built house, tho' of course not in its interior arrangement such as we should have built for ourselves. The rooms are not convenient for our use. But the space is abundant, & the rooms we think can be divided off by partitions & screens so as to furnish good accommodations, &

more than we could get elsewhere for the same money. All the members of our mission in Bombay were very desirous to secure this place: indeed, they felt that if this were not purchased, the alternative would be to rent houses for an indefinite time - perhaps for many years.

We were sorry that Mr. Harding did not also see his way to approve of the purchase, so that the Committee might act unanimously. But my own conviction was like that of the brethren in Bombay, that taken all in all, these premises were by far the best we could get for the sum of money at our disposal. After a majority of the mission had given their opinion that the Treasurer should pay over the purchase money to the Committee, Mr. Abbott & myself took the responsibility of closing the bargain. Mr. Harding will no doubt write you his reasons for disapproving the purchase.

Res. II. - to IV. refer to arrangements in the Satara district after the return of Mr. Bruce. The present accommodation in the Satara house is not enough for Bro.

Bruce & his family. We hope the grant for the additional rooms can be made on the receipt of these minutes, if it has not already been included in Mr. Bruce's allowances for 1890.

Res. V. Bro. Winsor has already written you of this proposed visit to America. He regrets very much the necessity of leaving his work. But physicians assure him that it will be at the risk of serious injury to his children if he keeps them longer in this country.

Res. 7. The subject of this resolution is no new thing in our correspondence. But we wish to urge it again, & to emphasize our petition as strongly as possible. We trust that some way will be found to afford the needed help in this part of our work.

Res. VIII. – XI. These resolutions ask for special grants in the coming year, amounting in the aggregate to Rs 3.352: mostly from the Woman's Board as it is work in connection with Girls schools. The emergencies are so urgent that it seems impossible to wait, & include them in the estimates for 1891.

Res. XVIII. This shows that some of us have not been able to retain in mission service all the teachers we had employed, hoping that some part of our contingent estimates would be received. Also several students have just graduated from the Normal School, whom we cannot now employ for lack of funds. They have been educated at mission expense, & are ready to work as teachers; but as we do not give them work they must look elsewhere, & will naturally drift away from us into connection with other missions, or into secular work.

The rest of the resolutions I think will be understood without remark upon them.

We have had abundant rains in this & the last month, which have done much to destroy the effects of the drought in the previous three months. The later sowings have been made, & now promise fairly well.

We are thankful to know that the Board closed its year free from debt. We wait to hear the report of the meeting in New York. Our church was holding daily morning prayer meetings at that time, & we remembered the meeting of the Board in our supplications.

We have no word yet from Mr. Smith, who was to sail from London for Canada Aug. 22d — we hope they reached their home in Toronto safely in due time. Our last news from them was from London.

Rec'd Nov. 27

Mr. McCullough continues his work in the High School with diligence & earnestness — some days ago he told me he meant to write to you, but I do not know whether he has done so.

We are thankful to know you had somewhat recovered from your illness.

With Christian regards,

As ever Sincerely yours

L. Bissell

Bruce H. G.

Re July 2. 86

I have decided to give up all thoughts of going to India this year unless I hear again, and much more strongly, from my parents. There will therefore be no need of your writing to the gentlemen to whom I gave references –

Sincerely yours,

H. G. Bruce.

8.30 p.m. July 1st '86.

H. G. Bruce,

Cambridge, July 1, 1886,

Rec'd July 2.

My dear Dr. Clarke.

I have written to Dr. Alden, requesting him not to send to the gentleman to whom I had given references, as I have decided not to go to India this year unless in case I should hear again, and much more urgently, from my father.— I am sincerely sorry to have bored you so

about such a futile piece of business.

Very truly yours,

H. G. Bruce.

8.35 p.m. July 1st. 86.

Cambridge.

Bruce Rev. Henry J.

Satara, India, Jan. 4. 1881.

My Dear Dr. Clarke,

I have the pleasure of sending you herewith the report of the Satara Station for the year 1880. It is composed of disconnected items and paragraphs, as it is expected that the Mission Report will be arranged according to topics, and not printed, as last year, with each man's report by itself. It has pleased the Mission to appoint me to edit the Report, this year, and I am now waiting for the reports of the Brethren to come in. Copies of the printed report will be sent to you as soon as it is ready.

We are glad to be able to report progress here in the Satara district during the past year. Nine persons have been received to the Church on profession of their faith. all but two of whom were received from the heathen. Among these there are some very interesting cases which you will find noticed in the accompanying report. In only our previous year (1867) was so large a number ever received to this church on profession. In 1867 eleven persons were received, but at that time the Satara church included members from the Bhuinj district as well. It is needless to say that we feel ourselves much encouraged, and the members of the church seem to be thoroughly in earnest to extend the knowledge of the truth and to gather souls into the kingdom.

2. I am sure that you will rejoice to know that some good results have early followed the efforts of last year to establish an out-station at Medha. One year ago it was still doubtful whether we should succeed in getting a place for our helpers to live in at Medha, and it was not until the middle of March that a house was secured. The people did all in their power to prevent our getting a foothold there; but the blessing of the Lord has followed our efforts, and three adults and one child have been baptized in

a village near by. You will find in the report a notice of the persecutions which the converts there have been called upon to suffer, an also of the testimony which one of them, a poor leper, gives to his friends and neighbors. I am making an effort now to establish a third out-station six miles to the North-East, but am perplexed and troubled as before in regard to the *house* question.

3. *Health.* During some portions of the year both Mrs B and myself have been rather poorly and unable to do our full work. The long, rapid, and laborious tour which I made in February was a little too much for me. I was prostrated for a week after my return, and I did not fully recover my strength for six months afterwards. I am happy to say however that we have both closed the year, and entered upon the new year, in a good degree of health and strength. We shall need all our strength and more, if we have to take over Bro Well's field and work on his departure for America.

4 *Visit to Northern India.* — You will have

seen from the minutes of the Oct. meeting that Bro Wells and I were contemplating a visit to Northern India. I was feeling so poorly during the rainy season that I thought such a trip might do me good, and I am sure that it did. I visited Indore, Allahabad, Benares, Lucknow, Cawnpore, Agra and Delhi. Bro Wells was with me as far as Lucknow when the sickness of Mrs W. at Panchgani compelled him to return to her. I had a most delightful trip, and besides the many objects of interest which I saw, I became somewhat acquainted with the working of several of the Missionary Societies in that region, & more particularly the Canadian Presbyterian, the American Presbyterian, the London Missionary Society, the Am. Methodist, and the English Baptist. I am unable to go into particulars, but I will say that I returned home with a feeling of comparative satisfaction with the principles and methods of the American Marathi Mission and the results that have attended its labors. In the matter of self support I think we are far ahead of any of the Missions which I visited in the North. In some places they have hardly made a beginning.

in this direction,

5. *The Native Pastor at Satara.*- (Mrs Bruce has contributed the following in regard to our native pastor A Vithalraw, under date of Nov. 14 1880.) "We have been studying of late in our S.S. Lessons, the life and character of good old Abraham. For a change I wish I could have taken you today to our plain chapel, furnished with benches and a half dozen chairs. You might have been surprised at first ~~to~~ on seeing our minister. He is not a D.D., though he is a wonderful student of the bible. He is a little, thin man, giving one the impression that he does not get enough to eat, and he dresses in the plain, white, native costume. But when his heart is on fire it would do you good to see the power he wields. I am almost afraid for the frail tabernacle sometimes. In his morning prayer today he made use of the following expression; "Truly, those whom thou blessest are blest. When thou dost give us a vision of thyself we go *jumping along* in thy service, but otherwise we go crying and mourning"'.

This P.M. his heart was so full that his mouth poured out a stream of burning words. I was surprised when he looked up to the clock and said that the time was up. He dwelt upon the analogy between the calling of Abraham, and the calling of sinners, and urged his hearers to exercise faith in God and come out from among the heathen — not even to count their lives dear unto them.

Vitthalrow himself is remarkable for his humility, and it seemed so natural when he represented Abraham as meekly standing before Melchisedek to receive the blessing. He said he thought that he must have hung down his head, and looked to one side, when the "King of Righteousness," pronounced him blessed of the most high God, feeling that he was all unworthy! It seems as if preaching with such zeal, kindled at the altar, must serve to quicken saints, and rouse the heathen from the stupor which Hinduism brings upon them, and we cry 'How long, O Lord, How long?'"

6 The Appropriations. — We are very thankful that the Prudential Committee have given us full approperiations for this coming year. The Otis legacy has enabled us to do a great many things in the last two years which we could not have done without it. I have felt for

some time as you expressed in your recent letter to the Mission that the Otis legacy would not always last and the question is how are we to meet the demands of our enlarged work when we are reduced to our usual amount of appropriations It is true that some of our heaviest expenditures have been such as will probably afford us relief in future years. Thus we hope that when the Mahableshwar houses are iron-roofed, there will be a saving of several hundred rupees a year which has been required for the old thatched roofs. But still our permanent work has been a good deal enlarged. — and it ought to be a great deal more enlarged. I am getting new men and am pushing them out into the districts about Satara as fast as I can. A thousand square miles of territory remain to be occupied, which could be worked from Satara as a center. Shall this work go on, or shall we be content with what we are already doing?

There is another source of expense arising from our best success, and which for the present must increase as our labors are more successful in reaching the higher classes. When a person from the higher castes becomes so far convinced of the truth of Christianity that he is willing to give up every thing for Christ, it is to him truly a sacrifice of every thing, so far as this world is concerned. He is cast out and has no ~~means~~ house or home or means of support. What shall be done in such cases? We could never under any circumstances hold out any promise or inducement of that kind to any one; but if one voluntarily chooses Christ and is driven from his home, if he comes to us can we tell him that we can do nothing for him?. The cases of the Brahman convert and the Weaver boy mentioned in my report are exactly to the point. In their cases however the matter was simplified by the fact that they are both promising young men whom we are glad to educate in the hope that they will become valuable helpers at some future day. I have therefore put them into my Station School and am supporting them on Rs 3 each per month, But I can imagine that we may very soon have cases of a different character, and it will be a difficult question to know what to do with them.

The Converts near Medha are from the Mahar caste. It is possible for them to live among their people and support themselves as they did before, though with persecutions and hardships, and I have therefore steadfastly declined to render them any assistance which shall lead them to feel that they may depend on us for help. I have often felt that this subject was one of the most perplexing and difficult with which the missionary in India has to deal, It is certainly a problem which has never yet been fully solved.

Very Truly Yours

Henry. J. Bruce

Satara, Jan. 4. 1881.
Rec'd Feb. 9.

Satara India June 27. 1881

My Dear Dr Clark.

Your letter referring to the arrangement with the Young Ladies Missionary Circle of Fisherville N.H. was received a few days ago. I enclose a short letter written to the "Circle," which I will ask you to forward to Rev A Wm Fiske, of that place. I did not intend to enter into any more such engagements, — to write to Sab. Schools and Missionary Circles at home — because it takes so much time and strength, but as this arrangement seems to be, so far as I am concerned, entirely Providential I shall try and do the best I can.

2. Our children, Henry and Hattie, have now been at home more than a year, and the time for which an appropriation was made for Henry expired May 22nd. I wish therefore to ask the Prudential Committee for the usual appropriation for him for the current year. May I ask that you or Mr Ward will inform him at West Boxford if the appropriation is made, so that he may draw the money when it may be needed.

I am happy to say that, through the kindness of Dr Perkins of Ware, Hattie has still a free home in his family. so that I have at present no occasion to ask for any appropriation on her account.

The rain is holding off and the people are beginning to feel anxious about it. We are all very well and have our hands full of work. The 28th and last Chapter of my Astronomy is finished in Eng. and the 27th is now being put into Marathi. The whole will then have to be revised twice, before it is ready for the press.

Very Truly Yours,

H. J. Bruce.

June 27, 18

Mahableshwar
Satara India Mar 23/81

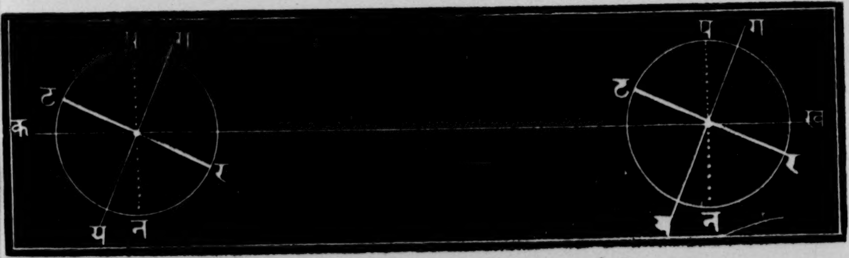
Rev. H. J. Bruce

My Dear Dr Clark Rec'd. Apr. 23

Your very kind letter of Jan 18 reached me this morning. It was delayed a month somewhere being postmarked "Boston Jan 18" and "London Feb 28". I thank you very much for your expression of kind interest in us and our work at Satara. It has quite cheered me up.

I sent you a large package on the 7th of Jan, and was this morning expecting an acknowledgement of it from you. It contained my annual Report and a long letter besides. I hope you have received it safely, and shall take it for granted that you have unless I hear to the contrary. My letter and report will inform you pretty fully in regard to our work at S. and will answer your questions about "how our native agency is developing, and how much of genuine spiritual life and moral earnestness they possess." The paragraph formulated by Mrs Bruen in regard to our Pastor Vithalrow, will show you what a treasure we have in him. At this present time he is off on a long voluntary tour in the eastern part of our district expecting to be gone a month or more. He is accompanied by another of my helpers, who also volunteered to go. I feel a little anxious about them lest the great heat of this season and the privations of the tour may be too much for them, but it seemed best to let them go.

Another matter which will interest you is the fact that I have just succeeded in getting a nice comfortable house for two families, at Wadut six miles to the North East of Satara. It was an old police station and I have rented it from Government for Rs 2 per month. There is a promise of a school but whether this will succeed or not I do not know. At all events it is a good center for my helpers to live in and visit the neighboring villages. I have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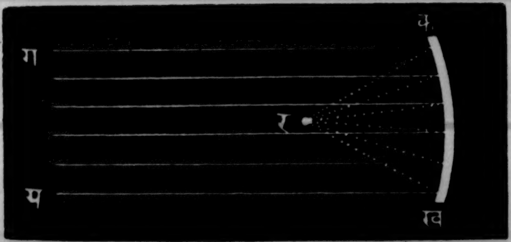
Parallelism of Earths Axis — The Seasons.



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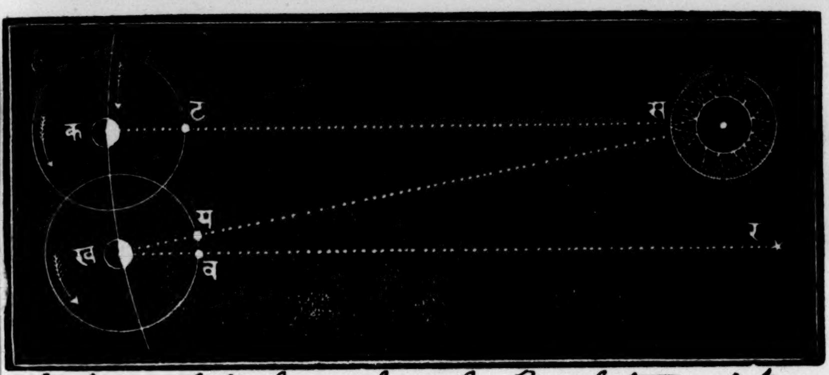
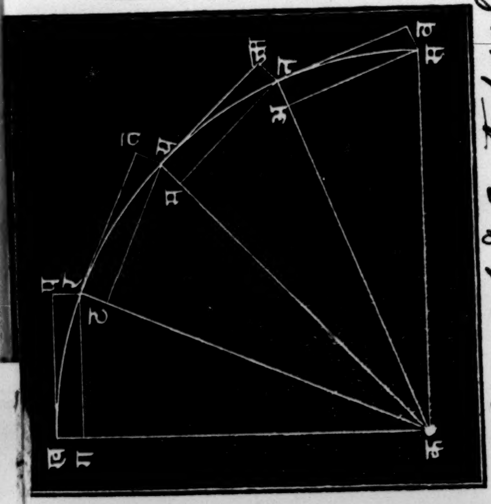
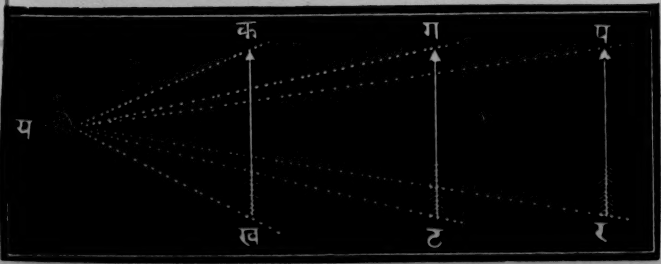


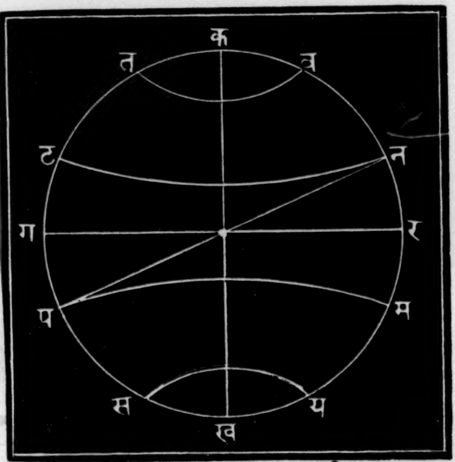
Sidereal & Synodical Revolutions of Moon



Centripetal & Centrifugal Forces.



The Angle of Vision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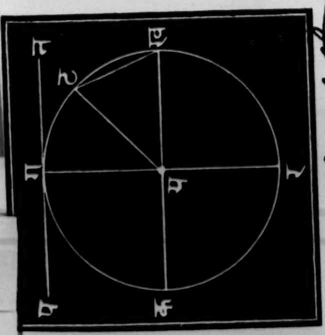
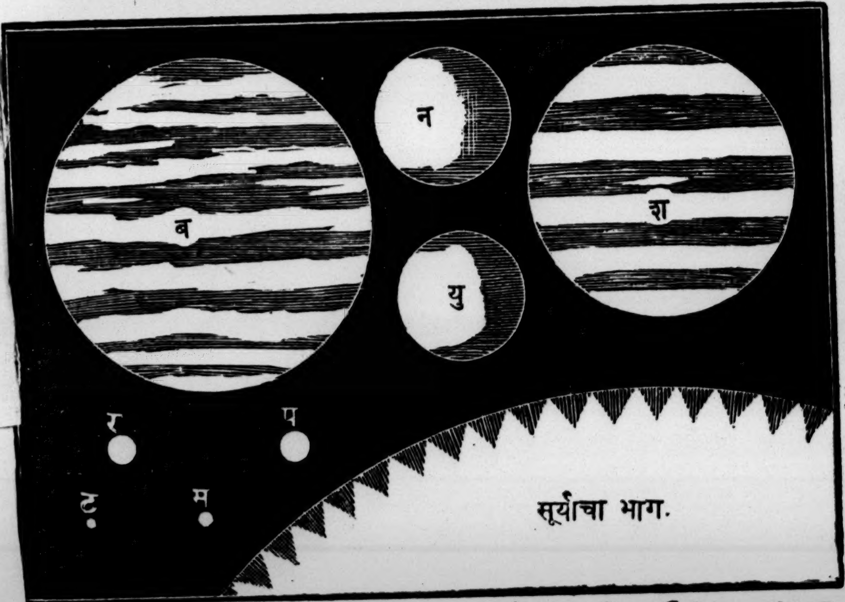
Circles of the Earth.



Elements of the Circle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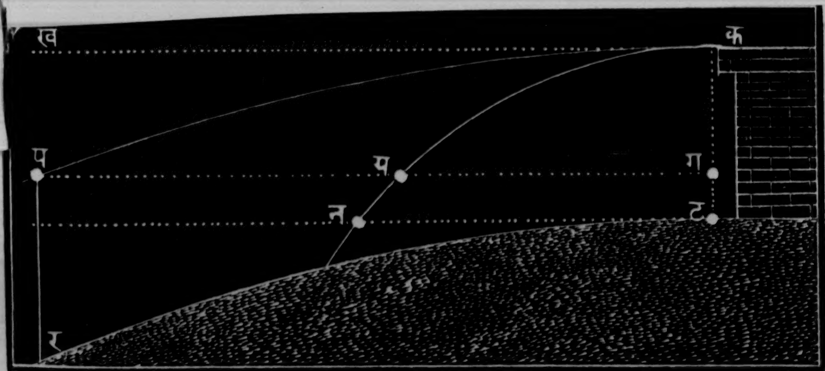
Comparative sizes of Sun & Planets



Power of Gravitation on Projectiles.

great hope from these outstations and am desirous to establish them as fast as I can. One great difficulty, is, as I have written you before, to secure houses for my men without incurring too much expense. This is my third outstation. Three points determine a circle, and feel now that I have an occupied field. I hope however the circle will be enlarged before long. My report will show you how much good has resulted from the occupation of Medha last year.

Copies of our printed Report were sent to you some weeks ago. As I said in my previous letter I was appointed Editor this year. You will observe various changes in the plan and the appearance of the Report. The great amount of writing which the Report required has brought a return of my hand difficulty but I hope it will not be very serious.

Am very glad that you were pleased with my Christmas Card. I think such things do good. It is a great pleasure to me to plan and execute new designs with my little press, and then make them over to the Mission or the Tract Society, to develope with their greater resources. I have forgotten whether I sent you a copy of my Columbian Press Calendar for 1881, but will send you one now at a venture. This was very popular and Mr R A Hume has asked the privilege of publishing it next year in connection with the Dnyanodaya. The texts upon it are carefully selected and contain the gist of the Gospel. I am frequently solicited to do job-work, but only occasionally do a little job just to show what the press can do. The Collector of Satara in acknowledging a little work I had done for him said "I have never seen such neat printing in India".

Of literary work I have my hands full. I am preparing by appointment of the Mission, a new Astronomy in Marathi. It will be similar in style to my Anatomy. It will contain 28 chapters, and I am now at work on the 23d. Hope to have the first draft completed this hot season. I have with my own hands engraved 26 woodcuts for the work. I enclose a sample or two. I have also in hand an "Illustrated" Primary Arithmetic in Marathi, which I think will be useful. This I expect to print myself next rainy season.

Excuse this rambling letter. Kind regards from Mrs B. Very Truly Yours

H J Bru

P.S. I have received three more idols, making 12 in all, from the village of Bibani, all of which were given up through the influence of Raghoba, the poor leper of whom I wrote you in my Annual Report. This indicates a little glimmering of light in the spiritual darkness that broods over, the valley of the Vena,

Mahableshwar May 24/81

Henry J. Bruce

My Dear Dr Clark Rec'd June 25

Ans'd July 23 At the recent meeting of the Mar. Mission I was appointed to prepare a paper for the Semi-Centennial Anniversary at Ahmednagar, on the "Literary Work of the Mission". In looking over my subject I find that there are some branches of it which are involved in difficulty. For example, so far as I know, there is not any list of the works prepared by our missionaries or of those published by the Mission during the 68 years of its existence. Any list or Catalogue that can be prepared now must therefore be exceedingly imperfect.

But imperfect as it may be I think that such a list as can be prepared at for reference in future years. I am therefore desirous of making the list as complete as possible, and for this purpose I need assistance from the Mission Library of the Board in Boston.

I know that on several occasions packages of our Mission Publications have been sent to you, with the titles, names of Authors or translators, written upon them. May I ask that you will allow Mr Chapin or one of his clerks, to prepare a list of such of our publications as you have in your possession, giving titles in full, name of author or translator, and the year of its publication.

I should be glad to receive this list as soon as possible, by Oct. next.

I was impressed with the importance of having such information in some tangible shape, on looking over our Marathi Hymn-Book with Mrs Bissell last evening. There is nowhere any list of the authors of these hymns, but Mrs B. was able to give me most of them from memory. Had the work of preparing the list been delayed until Mrs Bissell and Dr Fairbank were removed from us probably no living person could have made the list with any assurance of accuracy.

Your letter of April 6th was received. Many thanks! We shall now soon return to Satara (D.V.) and I am feeling very desirous to get back to our work.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

Satara India Sept. 2 1881

My Dear Dr Clark,

I have just returned from a kirttan this evening, but I must commence a letter to send you by Monday's mail. I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, which came last week, and of the letter and list of books from your clerk, Mr Hagen, which came this week. Kindly convey my thanks to Mr Hagen for the help he has given me. I am now ready to commence making out my list. For two and a half months I have been hard at work upon this subject, assigned me by the Mission. I do not think any one had any appreciation of the great amount of work they were putting upon me. The subject has grown upon me as I have studied it, and it seemed of so much importance that I could not slight it, or do the work superficially. I have therefore been through with the different departments of our Mission Literature viz. I The Marathi Bible Translation. II History of the American Mission Press. III General Literature IV Marathi Christian Hymnology. My manuscript will contain about 150 pages, half Foolscap size, very closely written. To get the information embodied in it I have searched probably more than a hundred volumes. I have endeavored to make my statements entirely accurate, but I have been perplexed with the inconsistencies of different accounts, and have spent no little time in trying to determine which of ~~of~~ two different statements was correct, or how the two could be reconciled.

While this work has been going on I have kept the printing press from getting rusty ~~but~~ by putting through my "Illustrated Primary Arithmetic," the first copies of which are now ready and the whole edition in the hands of the Binder. It was usually my morning work, before breakfast, to get the forms ready, so that my servants could print them during the day. For a time I used to write a page of it each evening, but afterwards got one of my teachers to write the simpler parts. The first draft of my Astronomy is completed, both in English and Marathi, and I hope to commence the revision of the Marathi very soon. You will be glad to know that my health has been generally good and I have never been able to work harder than I have during the last three months. Outside demands come in for a share of my time. Some one in Central India has obtained a Sciopticon and he writes to me to know how to make the screen. People in Madura and Ceylon have heard of my way of making Gelatine slides for the Magic Lantern to show hymns &c and they want specimens and explanations. An amateur Missionary printer has trouble with his press rollers and writes to me to help him out of his difficulty. And today I have a letter from the proprietor of a large printing establishment in Benares, who has seen some of my work, fancies some of my types, and wishes me to send him samples of the whole fount. Since writing the above good Bro. Bower has written to ask how he shall re-ink his Type-writer Ribbon. All these things take time but they help to keep the work moving on.

Now this is such a gossipping letter that I almost think it had better go into the waste basket than be sent to you; but you will remember that it is for your eye alone, and excuse the freedom and the haste.

2. There is one item of business which I wish to present. We are thinking whether we had not better send our daughter Nellie home during the coming year if a suitable opportunity presents itself. She is now upwards of twelve, rather delicate, and although

she is very well just now. she is very quickly wilted down when the hot weather comes on. I wish to have permission to send her when it seems best, the Mission approving, and when there is a suitable opportunity for her to go. We feel that Henry and Hattie were kept here too long for their good, and we would avoid the same mistake with the other children.

Very truly yours

H. J. Bruce.

P. S. I shall send you copies of my Arithmetic as soon as I have them to spare. Already a Publisher in Benares has asked if I have any objections to his putting it into Hindi or Urdu.

Satara Sept. 23 1880

Satara Sept 10 1881

My Dear Dr Clarke,

I wrote you by the last mail about my paper in regard to the Literary work of our Mission, During the last week I have been able to complete my lists so far as I have information, and my little Columbian Press has enabled me to multiply copies of the Titles and Authors, to circulate for the purpose of getting more information if if possible, I enclose some copies on very thin paper, for our former Missionaries who are now in America, I should think that Mr Abbott who joined the Mission in 1834, might remember the authors of many of the books on the List,

The replies if sent immediately will reach me before the List is printed,

I hope the work has been done so thoroughly this time that it will never known to be done again.

The complete list will give something of a history of each book so far as I could get any information, in regard to different editions, number of copies printed &c.

I send you also through Mr Hutchins two copies of my Arithmetic for the Library of the Board.

Very Truly Yours

H J Bruce

ny information you may be able to give
ll reach me before the list is printed
it is sent immediately H.J.B. 150

PUBLICATIONS
OF THE
AMERICAN MARATHI MISSION.

This List is printed in this rough way for the purpose of eliciting further information. Can any one furnish other Titles, or give the Names of the Authors of any of these works? Only these two particulars are given here, but the list as prepared for final printing will contain much additional information. Address H. J. BRUCE, SATARA.

1817. A Scripture Tract. Probably by Rev. G. Hall.
The Gospel of Matthew.
Harmony of the Gospels.
1818 The Way to Heaven. By Rev. Gordon Hall.
The Acts of the Apostles.
1819. The Way to Heaven, (Guzarathi.)
The Compassion of Christ towards Sinful Men.
The Sermon on the Mount.
A Catechism.
Hymn Book.
Scripture History.
The Gospel of John.
1820. Trial of False Gods.
The Ten Commandments. (In Marathi Portuguese, Latin and English.)
Summary of Scripture Doctrines.
Epistles of James and Jude.
1822. The Three Worlds. By Rev. Gordon Hall.
The Heavenly Way.
On the Worship of God.
1823. The Heavenly Way. (In Hindustani.)
1824. The Epistle to the Hebrews.
Good Tidings. By Rev. Samuel Newell.
Forms of Prayer, Hymns &c.
The Book of Genesis.
Genesis, to Chap. 19 : 30 as a Tract.
1825. The Ten Commandments, with Comments.
The Wrath to Come. By Rev. Gordon Hall.
Useful Instruction.
On Prayer.
The Gospel of Luke.

[illegible]

[illegible]

1825. Marathi Sermon on Josh. 3: 5. By Rev. A. Graves.
Hymns.
Tidings. By Rev. Gordon Hall.
Prayers and Hymns.
1826. The New Testament.
The Discourses of our Saviour.
The Miracles of Christ.
The Parables of Christ.
1828. The Unreasonableness of Idolatry.
1829. Relief to the Sin-Burdened. By Capt. T. Molesworth.
In Whom shall we Trust? By Major T. Candy.
Marks of the True Religion. By Major. T Candy.
1830. The New Testament,
On Prayer. By Rev. W. Mitchell, C. M. S.
1832. Forms of Worship.
A Scripture Catechism.
Summary of the Holy Scriptures.
Nature of Prayer, with Prayers and Hymns.
1833. Hymns for Public Worship, (In Native Metres.) By Rev. C. Stone.
Good Instructions. By Rev. C. Stone.
Concerning Salvation. By. Rev. C. Stone.
True Remedy for Sinners. By Rev. C. Stone.
The True Atonement. By Rev. C. Stone.
The Birth of Christ. By Rev. C. Stone.
Preparation for Death. By Rev. C. Stone.
The Sufferings and Death of Christ.
On Regeneration.
Biblical Instruction, (In Marathi Shlokas.)
Henry and His Bearer. Tr. by Mrs. Farrar C. M. S.
Book of Exodus.
Address to the Jews. By Rev. A. Graves.
1834. Compendium of the Bible. By Rev. D O Allen. D.D.
On Prayer.
True Worship of God.
History of Our Saviour. By Rev. D. O. Allen, D. D.
1835. Psalms and Hymns. (In English Metres,)
A Sermon.

1835. Scripture Narratives, (Old Testament.)
The Way of Salvation.
The Life of Babaji, A Converted Brahman. By Rev. Hollis Read.
1836. Catechism on the Lord's Prayer.
Child's Book on the Soul. Two Parts.
Moral Stories. Trans. by Mrs. Candy.
1837. The Child at Home. Chap. 1st. Trans. by Rev. A. Abbott.
1838. Hymns for the Young. (English.)
1840. Catechism on the History of the Bible.
1841. Wisdom and her Ways.
Address to Mothers. By Mrs. Abbott.
1842. The New Creature. By Rev. S. B. Munger.
The Dnyanodaya.
1843. The Gospels. Version by the Ahmednagar Missionaries.
1844. Life of Radhanath. By Rev. O. French.
Pilgrimages. By Rev. A. Abbott.
Poor Swaizeland. Trans. by Mrs. Abbott.
Topical Questions on the Scriptures.
1845. Inquiry Concerning the Want of Rain. By Rev. O. French.
Hymns for Divine Worship, By Rev. H. Ballantine.
African Girl and other Stories. Trans. By Rev. A. Abbott.
Comparison of the Accounts of some Ancient Events, as found in the Matsya Purana, and the Hebrew Scriptures.
Folly of Hindus in Matters regarding their Salvation.
1846. Account of Jagannath. By Rev. H. Ballantine.
The Cholera. By Rev. A. Abbott.
1847. Rewards of Drunkeness. Trans. by Rev O. French.
Bombay Native Almanac for 1847.
1848. Child's Book on Repentance. Trans. by Rev. O. French.
Almanac for 1848.
Private Advice to Young Men.
1849. Shepherd of Salisbury Plain. Tr. by Rev. R. G. Wilder.

1849. The School Boy. Chap. I.
First Prize Essay on the Holi. By Rev. R. V. Modak.
Second Prize Essay on the Holi. By Gopalraw Deshmuk.
Almanac for 1849.
1850. Other Worlds.
Youth's Book on Natural Theology.
Honesty.
Barth's History of the Christian Church.
Picture Book for Children. By Rev. R. W. Hume.
1851. Parley the Porter. Trans. by Rev. A. Hazen.
Almanac for 1851.
Various Systems of Religion. By Rev. H. Ballantine.
Old Testament Selections.
Lambs Fed. By Rev. H. Ballantine.
Scripture Stories.
Book of Beasts. (Guzarathi in 1854.)
Book of Birds. (Guzarathi in 1854.)
1852. Bombay Native Almanac for 1852.
1853. The Seeker after Religion (Guzarathi). By Rev. J. V. Taylor, I. P. Miss.
1855. Address to Educated Young Men on their Duties to their Country. By Rev. H. Ballantine.
The Right of Christians to draw Water from Tanks.
Account of Lakhiram.
1857. Theological Class Book. Tr. by Rev. R.V. Modak.
1858. Memoir of Mrs. Mary E. Munger. By Rev. S. B. Munger.
The Conflict of Truth. By Rev. S. B. Munger.
Account of Yesoba Powar.
1859. The Power of Prayer. Trans. by Rev. L. Bissell.
1862. Hymns for Children. By Rev. H. Ballantine.
The Bible Baptist. By Rev. H. Ballantine.
1866. Salvation by Jesus Christ. By Rev. S. B. Munger.
1868. Gayanamrit. Hymns in Native Metres. By Mr. Krishnarow Sangali.
Come to Jesus. Trans. by Rev. H. J. Bruce.
Bodhamrit. By Rev. Sidhoba Misal.
The New Testament, with References.

1868. Index to the New Testament.
Synopsis of the Gospels, (With Map.)
Tunes for the Sacred Songs.
1873. Balbodh Mewa.
1874. The Bulbul. Edited by Mrs. Bissell.
1876. Dnyanodaya Almanac for 1877.
1877. The Family Friend. By. Mr Tukaram Nathoji.
The Faithful Dog and his Basket. A Picture Story. By Rev. H. J. Bruce.
Dnyanodaya Almanac for 1878.
1878. Dnyanodaya Almanac for 1879.
1879. Dnyanodaya Almanac for 1880.
Uncle Johnson. Trans. by Mrs. Bruce.
Sinless Prophet of Islam. Tr. by Mr. Shahu Daji.
The Children's Friend. By Mr. Arnand M. Sangali.
1880. The Safe Compass. Tr. by Dowlut M. Sangali.
Sermons on Christian Doctrines.By Rev. R. V. Modak.
The Young Sapphira. Trans. by Mrs. Bruce.
Dnyanodaya Almanac for 1881.

EDUCATIONAL SERIES.

1818. A School Reading Book.
First Book for Children. 16mo. pp. 16. American Mission Series No. 1. The same in Balbodh and Mod, on opposite pages, No. 2.
Marathi Numerical Tables.
1819. A Help in Acquiring the English Language (English and Marathi). By Rev. Gordon Hall.
1824. Elements of Astronomy and Geography. With Plates.
1826. A Spelling Book. With easy Reading Lessons.
A Spelling Book. First Half of the Preceding.
Elementary Arithmetic.
1834. Barakhadya, or Marathi Primer.
1837. Arithmetic. Three Parts. By Rev. A. Abbott.
1839. Catechism of the Geography and History of Maharashtra (English.)

1839. School Dialogues, Part I. (English and Marathi.)
1840. Intellectual Arithmetic. (Colburn's.)
Principles of Geography in Four Lectures.
1842. Easy Lessons in Reading, with English and Marathi Vocabulary. By Rev. E. Burgess.
1846. Astronomy. With Plates. By Rev. E. Burgess.
Natural Philosophy. With Plates.
A Treatise on Logic. By Rev. A. Abbott.
1847. A Small Geography.
1848. A Small Arithmetic.
Marathi Grammar. By Rev. E. Burgess.
A Music Book.
1851. Principles of English Grammar and Idiomatic Sentences, English and Marathi. By Rev. E. Burgess.
Easy Primer and Vocabulary, in Marathi. By Rev.
1853. Music Manual. (E. Burgess.
1854. Grammar of the Marathi Language. (In English.) By Rev. E. Burgess.
Introduction to Mental Arithmetic.
Manual of Sanskrit Grammar. By Rev. J. V. S. Taylor, of the Irish Pres. Mission.
1866. Questions on Geography. Illustrated. By Rev. S. B. Fairbank, D. D.
1875. Arithmetic, Interest Discount &c. By Rev. S. B. Fairbank, D. D.
1876. Arithmetic, Part I. By Rev. S. B. Fairbank.D.D.
1879. Arithmetic, Part II. By Rev. S. B. Fairbank D.D.

LIST OF BOOKS

PREPARED BY MEMBERS OF THE

AMERICAN MARATHI MISSION,

AND PUBLISHED BY THE BOMBAY TRACT SOCIETY, AND OTHERS,

(Published by the Tract Society, unless otherwise specified.)

1824. The Three Worlds. By Rev. Gordon Hall. See Mission List 1822. (sion List 1825.
1829. The Wrath to Come. By Rev. Gordon Hall. Mis-

1830. Good Tidings. By Rev. Samuel Newell. Mission List 1824.

First Book for Children. Miss. Educational List 1818.

1849. The Shepherd of Salisbury Plain. Trans by Rev. R. G. Wilder. Mission List 1849.

Pilgrimages, Cholera &c. By Rev. A. Abbot. Mission List 1844 & 1846.

The School Boy. Chap. I. Mission List 1849.

Astronomy. By Rev. S. B. Fairbank.

1850. The African Girl and Other Stories. Tr. by Rev. A. Abbott. Mission List 1845.

The Dairyman's Daughter. Tr. by Rev. R. G. Wilder.

Dialogue on Religion. Tr. by Rev. Geo. Bowen.

On Faith. Revised by Rev. R. G. Wilder.

Barth's Church History. Mission List 1850. (List 1833.

Henry and his Bearer. Tr. by Mrs. Farrar, C.M.S. Miss.

1851. Compendium of the Bible. By Rev. D. O. Allen D. D. Mission List 1834.

Narayan Bawa. By Rev. R. W. Hume.

Picture Book for Children. By Rev. R. W. Hume. Mission List 1850.

The Mother at Home. Tr. by Rev. A. Hazen.

Life of Mohammed (English). By Rev. Geo. Bowen.

1852. On the Choice of a Guru. By Rev. R. W. Hume.

Summary of Scripture Doctrines. Mission List 1820.

Barth's Bible Stories, N. S. Tr. by Rev. W. Wood.

1853. Life of Mohammed. Tr. by Rev. Haripant Ramchandra, from the Eng. of Rev. Geo. Bowen.

Nature's Wonders. Tr. by Sarwottam Sakaram. Revis'd & Ind'n Examples substituted by Rev. S. B. Fairbank.

Kindness to Animals. Tr. by R. G. Wilder.

On Transmigration By Rev. R. V. Modak.

Questions on Hinduism. Tr. by Rev. Geo. Bowen.

1855. Physical Errors of Hinduism. By Rev. R. G. Wilder.

The Word of God. By Mr. Sheik Daood.

Little Jane, The Young Cottager. Tr. by Mrs. Wilder.

Examination of Religions. Part I. Tr. from the Sanskrit by Rev, Haripant Ramchandra. (By S. Daood.

1857. Fulfilment of Prophecy in the Spread of Christianity.

1857. Examination of Religions, Part II. Tr. from the Sanscrit by Rev. H. Ballantine.
The Wrath to Come (Hindustani). Tr. by Mr. Sheik Daood.
1858. The Saviour of the World. Tr. by Rev. L. Bissell D.D.
The Godly and Ungodly. By Mr. Sheik Daood.
1859. The Power of Prayer. Tr. by Rev. L. Bissell D.D.
1860. Counsels to Native Christian Mothers. By Mr. Sheik Daood.
1863. The Scripture and what they teach of God and Man. By Rev. S. B. Munger.
Caste. By. Rev. R. V. Modak.
Slander. By Rev. R. V. Modak.
Vicarious Punishment (Hindustani). Tr. by Rev. A. Abbott.
1864. Mahomedism, What Evidence of its Truth? By Rev. Kassimbhai Mohammedji.
The Sinners Friend. Tr. by Rev. R. V. Modak.
1865. Abusive Speech. By Rev. S. B. Misal.
Marathi Grammar for Beginners. By Rev. S. B. Fairbank.
1867. The Watchmaker and his Family. Tr. by Rev. H. J. Bruce.
1868. Mohurrum Festival. By Mr. Shahu Daji Kukade.
1869. The Children of the Bible. Tr. by Mrs. Fairbank.
'Tis All for the Best. Tr. by Mrs. Bruce.
Conversations about Caste. By Rev. S. B. Misal.
1870. Hymns and Spiritual Songs. By Mr. Krishnaraw R. Sangali.
Divine Method of Salvation. (A Prize Poem.) By Mr. Krishnaraw R. Sangali.
Law in its Relations to Salvation. An Inquiry for Brahmists (English). By Rev. H. J. Bruce.
1871. The Smith of Ragenbach and other Stories. Tr. by Mrs. Bruce.
The Cross-Bearer. Tr. by Rev. W. Wood.
The Lambs Fed. Tr. by Rev. H. Ballantine. Mission List 1851.
Medical Work on Diseases of Women. Tr. by Rev. A. Abbott. Pub. by Mr. Abuna Linguji Ahmednagar

1872. The Two Lambs. By Mrs. Park.
1873. The Great Salvation. Rev. Haripant Ramchandra.
The Old Old Story and Other Hymns. By Mrs. Bissell.
1874. The King's Son. By Mrs. Park.
Good Tidings in Verse. A Poetical Version of Rev. Samuel Newell's tract of the same name. By Rev. Vishnu Bhaskar.
A Sermon on the Death of Mrs. E. D. Ballantine. By Rev. R. V. Modak. "Published by Her Children."
1875. The Mother's Last Words. Poetical Translation. By Mrs. Bissell.
1876. The Best Friend. By Mrs. Park.
Songs of God's Praise, and Story of Job. A Poetical Tract, by Mr. Krishnaraw R. Sangali.
Conversation on eating Meat. By Rev. R. A. Hume. Published by the Columbian Press, Satara.
1878. Anatomy, Human and Comparative. By Rev. H. J. Bruce. Published by the Author.
1879. Memoir of Rev. Edward Payson. Trans. by Mr. Sheik Oomar.
Moody's Addresses. Tr. by Mr. Sheik Oomar.
Geography of the Four Gospels. By Mr. Sheik Oomar. Published by the Author.
1881. The Doctrine of Incarnation and its Indian Illustrations. (English.) By Rev. C. W. Park.
Illustrated Primary Arithmetic. By Rev. H. J. Bruce. 250 Illustrations. Pub. by the Author.

Rev. W. J. Bruce

Satara, Sep. 10, 1881.

Rec'd Oct. 17.

abbott

Satara, India, Nov. 9. 1881.

My Dear Dr. Clark.

In the Missionary Herald for Sept. last, page 343, the following statement occurs. "The American Board, in the persons of Gordon Hall and Samuel Nott, was first on the ground at Bombay; but a station of the London Missionary Society was planted at just about the same time at Surat, north of Bombay, and so has the honor of being absolutely the first mission on the western coast." Having had occasion recently to examine the early history of Missions in Western India I beg that you will allow me to correct the above statement. Messrs Hall and Nott arrived in Bombay Feb 12 1813. The London Missionary Society as early as 1805 determined to establish a station at Surat, and Dr J Taylor and Rev Mr Loveless were sent out, via Madras, for that purpose. Mr Loveless, however, remained in Madras, and Dr Taylor arrived in Bombay alone in 1807. on his way to Surat. While in Bombay he became so discouraged at the outlook for Missions, that he resigned his commission and accepted an appointment under Government, He was afterwards a warm friend of the American missionaries, and Messrs Hall and Nott, stopped a few days at his house on their first arrival. The next effort of the London Missionary Society to establish a station at Surat was in 1815, when Rev. Messrs W Fyvie and J Skinner were sent out. They reached Bombay in the latter part of the year, fully two and a half years after Hall and Nott had commenced operations in Bombay. Their long contest with Government for permission to remain in Bombay, was ended, and they were then laying broad the foundations of the Mission. Mr Fyvie himself says in a published letter, "When I arrived in India the American brethren, Messrs Hall and Newell (Newell had arrived in 1814, and Nott had then just sailed for America,) were laboring amidst many discouragements to establish their first native school." x x x "When I arrived, with the exception of the two American brethren mentioned, there were no missionaries in the whole of Western India"

So you see that the American Board has no occasion to surrender "the honor" of having established "absolutely the first mission on the western coast" of India.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

H. J. Bruce
Satara Nov 7, 1881
Ja 3. 82 (Dana)

Satara India Nov 22 1881

My Dear Dr Clark

Your letter to Dr Bissell our Secretary, in which you acknowledge receipt of various letters was sent to me a few days ago. I wrote you in June last on a matter of business, and as that letter was not acknowledged, and I have not heard from you in regard to it I will repeat the request that I made at that time. It was that the Prudential Committee would make the same grant to my son Henry, now in Phillips Academy, Andover, which was made last year. His year terminated I believe on the 22nd of May, the date of his arrival in America. If this grant is made I will thank you to inform Henry of it, so that he can avail himself of it when he may need to do so.

As I said in my former letter through the kindness of Dr and Mrs Perkins of Ware our Hattie still has a free home in their family, and I have no occasion to ask any allowance for her, at present.

Very truly yours H. J. Bruce

H. J. Bruce
Satara Nov. 22 1881
Rec'd Jan. 3 1882

Satara India Jan 31 1882

My Dear Dr Clarke

I have the pleasure of sending you some items from my annual report. I think you will find some of them interesting as showing progress in our work, although I am not able to report any additions to our church during the year. The reports of all the brethren have been forwarded to me, and I have prepared and am about sending off to the press, the Annual Report of the Mission. It shows an addition to all our churches, on proffession of faith of 163 persons, and a net gain in membership of 108.

2. I have little to say of my own work during the year, more than is contained in my report. My health has been very good, so that I have been able to work steadily right along through the year. I am sure I never did so much *hardwork* since I came to India as I have during the past year. I have been often reminded of what Dr Tyler of Boston told me when I

went to him to inquire whether my state of health would render it advisable for me to return to India. After examination he told me that he thought I would gradually get stronger, and eventually be able to do more work than ever before. It has certainly been the case, whatever may have been the cause for it.

Mrs Bruce has been pretty well for the most part, but has been feeling poorly for the last month or two. Our daughter Helen has been remarkably well for the last six months, so that, unless something unforeseen occurs, we have now no intention of sending her home this year. The permission of the Prudential Committee to send her home this year if thought advisable, will, I suppose, keep for another twelve months.

3. I think you will be glad to know that I am just completing my Marathi Astronomy, on which I have been at work for two years or more. The Memorial Papers too, which have been committed to me to edit and carry through the

press, are nearly ready for the printer, and the Annual Report is partly in the hands of the printer. So I expect soon to feel ~~greatly~~ relieved of the great pressure of literary work which has been upon me for the last year, and especially since the May Meeting of the Mission when the last two burdens were put upon me.

4. On Christmas morning, just before going to our Sunday School, I received intelligence of the great reduction in our appropriations for 1882. I need not tell you that it saddened the exercises of that otherwise joyful day. I know not what to say in regard to it, but I cannot but feel that the reductions were made under a very inadequate understanding of the circumstances of the case. Your letter does not indicate that the receipts of the Board are such as to compel such a reduction, but the reason is stated to be, to give the native Christians an opportunity to come forward and do more for themselves. We are disposed to press the matter of self-support just as far as possible, and urge our people

to take upon themselves as many burdens as they can bear, but when such an avalanche comes upon us all at once both our Christians and we ourselves are discouraged by it. I leave it to others to speak in regard to their own fields and work, but I wish to mention one or two things about our work at Satara. The reductions here were Rs 200 on evangelistic work, Rs 300 on Education and Rs 360 on buildings.

I have written you before in regard to my method of carrying on my work here and you have expressed your satisfaction with it. I have been trying as rapidly as our means would allow, and in the most economical way possible, to plant outstations in the region round about Satara, During the last year I have succeeded in establishing two new outstations, and they are now in successful working order. These make four such outstations which we have planted within the last three years. From one of these new outstations a convert was received to the church on the 1st day of Jan. 1882. just one day too late to be counted in 1881. In all the region about *Wadut*, which has only been occupied since last March, there is a great deal of interest, and our people find ready listeners wherever they go. Our *kirttan* has been out there several times, and Kasimbhai always returns with a great deal of enthusiasm. We are hopeful of good results there. The outstation at Medha has already brought in *three* converts, and the interest is spreading. There are some very hopeful cases there, and the opposition is diminishing. Now it takes *six* men to man these four outstations. For our city work, including the Station School, for touring and general evangelistic work, we have aside from the Pastor, *four* men. This is my entire force in the Satara field, and it is *small* enough surely. But the reduction of Rs 500 in these two departments would require the dismissal of at least *three* men, perhaps *four*. Now what can I do? Which of my men shall I dismiss? or which of these outstations shall I give up? In the Bhuinj district there are

"Memorial Papers" which I am about to put to press. I think they will be a valuable contribution to the History of the Marathi Mission. There are eight papers, arranged as follows:

1 Account of Jubilee Meetings. by Rev R. A. Hume
2 Extracts from a letter from Dr Graham of Edinburgh who was at Nagar when our first Missionaries arrived Dec, 1831.
3. A Paper of Reminiscences from Rev Hollis Read who was one of the first missionary company arriving in Nagar.
4. History of the Native Christian Church. by Rev R. V. Modak.
5. Account of some Native Christians independent of Mission support. by Mr Maruti Sangale,
6. Evangelistic Work of the Mission by Rev S B Fairbank
7 The Educational Work of the Mission by Rev L. Bissell
8 The Literary Work of the Mission " Rev H J Bruce

These papers are much longer than was expected and consequently it will cost more to print them than we anticipated. The Rs 500 asked for the Report & Memorial Papers will not cover the cost. I am instructed by the Mission to go ahead and do the best I can, and I am getting the work done as cheaply as possible. Have made the Report much smaller than it was last year. It was thought not best to omit the report or abbreviate it too much, as it generally brings in some donations, more than enough to cover its cost. I do not see but these donations will have to be used to pay for the printing of the Report this year.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

Satara. Jan 31. 1882
Rech. Mar 7

Mahableshwar May 6, 1882.

Mr Bruce — 5

My Dear Dr Clarke,

Your letter of March 8th was received a few days ago. There are two things in it to which I wish to refer.

1. You say, "I do not see how you can do much properly spiritual work with your mind so much occupied in publication of various kinds." I have had a great amount of literary work to do the past year, it is true. But it has been entirely exceptional. It was occasioned by our Semi-centennial, and could not well be avoided, unless the greater part of the past history of the Mission was to be allowed to pass into oblivion. I like always to have some literary work in hand to fill up my spare time, but I do not expect to be so

overwhelmed with it again until the next Semi-Centennial of the Mission comes round,

2. What I wish more particularly to call your attention to is the following. You say: "I feel there ought to be two more men with you at Satara to develop the work in the region round about in the most efficient manner." As this comes to me at the same time that my resources for the employment of Native Helpers are greatly reduced I wish to make a single suggestion. I have given the work at Satara a great deal of thought and it has been my study how we could develop it in the most *economical*, as well as the most efficient manner. I am satisfied that the course proposed by you is *not* the most judicious. I feel sure that it would be far more effective for the present to

try to develop the work there by means of an efficient Native agency. I could have done much more in the past three years if I had not been limited to so small an expenditure in this direction. I have asked each year for one or two additional men (as many as the Mission would allow,) to occupy new positions in the district. I have supported at my own private expense, men for whom I had no Mission funds. I am gratified at the beginning that has thus been made. But with men and means very much more could have been done. Now the plan proposed by you of sending even one additional Missionary to Satara, would involve an expense of at least Rs 250 per month. (With rent &c say Rs 300.) Some of my most faithful workers at Satara are employed on Rs 11 and Rs 12 per month. Rent &c would be 1 or 2 additional. The expense therefore of maintaining one Missionary, even without his corps of Helpers, would

would be sufficient to enabl
me to employ from 15 to 20 additio
helpers, in from 10 to 15 different
places. Taken on gradually as I
could secure suitable places and
houses for them I could superinte
the work of 20 more men withou
difficulty. I feel that this is
every way the most economica
and the most efficient way of
working the Satara district.
I plead therefore for more
Native assistants, rather tha
for any additional Missionar
force at Satara. I hope you
will send back Bro Wells at
the earliest possible momen
to relieve me of the care
of the Bhuinj field, but un-
til our present plan of work
at Satara has had a fair
trial. I do not think that i
would be the best way to sen
additional Missionaries ther
unless they should come to dev
of some new department
of Missionary labor, such as
Medical work, or something of that kin

3. I regret that no additions were made to our churches last year, but you know very well that our *statistics* cannot show *all* that is done. As an illustration of this I would say that since the first of January last, *two* persons, one a *Marathi* the other a Mussulman, have gone from the Satara district and have been baptized in Bombay. They were the *fruit* of our Satara labors, but *others* were allowed to gather them in. The reason for their going to Bombay for baptism was, I suppose, that they might escape from the persecutions of their friends and relatives. One of these persons was entirely *unknown* to us, but we have since learned that he was convinced of the truth from hearing some of my helpers preaching at a Hindu festival 16 miles from Satara. His first plan was to come to Satara for

baptism, but he was so opposed by his friends that he ran away to Bombay. The other person attended our services at Satara and was accustomed to go to Kassimbhai for instruction.

4. The agitation which is at present being made in regard to a Railroad to pass by Satara and go to Kolapur & Belgaum, has led me to think that after a suitable Native force has been provided for the immediate region of Satara, the city of Korad 32 miles south of Satara on the Kolapur road might be a very eligible place for a new Station to be occupied by a Missionary. It is situated at the junction of the Krishna and the Koina rivers and commands all the lower part of the rich Koina valley.

It would be far away from

the principal centres, and the Missionary living there would have little European society, except when the Government officials are *touring* in that vicinity. He would need therefore to be a *brave* man and to have a *brave* wife, with hearts devoted to the work of saving souls. I throw out this hint for your consideration in case you should contemplate the needed extension of our work. Karod is now in my field, but if any other Society should attempt to enter it, I certainly could not say them *nay*, as I have at present no means of working it.

5. Our Memorial Volume is passing *slowly* through the Press, but it will not be ready

for some weeks yet. I have put down six bound copies and six in paper covers, for your use. I shall send them as soon as they are ready. If that number will not be sufficient for your wants ~~you will~~ please let me know. All the Members of our Mission who are now in America will also be remembered with two copies.

Very truly yours

H. J. Bruce

Mahableshwar May 9 1882

H. J. Bruce

My Dear Dr. Clark.

As the second year of our children being at home (May 22.) is near its close I wish to apply through you to the Prudential Committee, for the usual grant of $120 for Henry for the coming year. Kindly inform him when it is granted, so that he can draw upon it at his convenience.

2. For two years past our daughter Hattie has been favored with a free home in the family of Dr. Perkins of Ware, and I

have therefore asked no allowance for her from the Committee. Mrs Perkins has recently informed us that owing to her own long-continued illness and feebleness, it will not be convenient for them to keep Hattie in their family another year. I must therefore ask the Committee to make her the usual grant for the coming year, commencing with May 22,

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

been every way highly satisfactory. When in the Hospital he had a pretty severe test. The Doctor prescribed some spirits for him, but he declined to take it ~~even~~ as a medicine. He said "That has destroyed me once, and I will not take it again. I will die, but I will not take it."

He is a good workman as a mason, and has had steady work since he left the Hospital.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

P. S. The Facsimile pages of the early editions of the Marathi New Testament were obtained at my own private expense & the frontispiece I obtained for Rev R A Hume, & at his expense. So they cost the Mission nothing.

Satara July 1 1882

H. J. Bruce

Rec'd Sept. 26

My Dear Dr Clark,

I am sending you by this mail, in a registered package, six copies of the "Memorial Papers." They are the first advanced copies from the Press. Not one of our Missionaries has yet seen a copy in its completed form, and I shall not be able to supply them for some days yet. I send these copies to you at the earliest possible moment hoping that they will be useful in helping to present the subject of "India" at the coming meeting of the Board.

Six bound copies will be sent to you in due time.

I hope the lawless Arabs in Egypt will not intercept the mails and thus prevent your receiving these copies in due course.

We are expecting that the Harding party will arrive in Bombay on Monday.

Have I written you, that ~~the~~ Director of Public Instruction has taken 500 copies of my new Astronomy (Marathi) and 1000 copies of my "Illustrated Arithmetic"! Both of ~~which~~ them are now going through the press, I am therefore able to publish the Astronomy without expense to the Mission, except for the copies actually wanted by the Mission, which I shall supply at a reduced price.

Did you receive the printed papers I sent you in January in reference to Dhondiba Goundy? Since leaving the Hospital in March he has been doing well, & promises to be a great help to the church. Both Bro Harding & Bro Hazen have written expressing doubts as to whether he will stand firmly, but as yet his conduct has

Satara, India Aug 29 1882.

My Dear Dr Clark,

"Our ship came in" a few weeks ago, and among other things that it brought us from America I was pleased to find the copy of Dr. Schaff's Bible Dictionary which you kindly sent me. It has already been placed "on duty," and I think you will be interested to know what service it is doing. My Assistant Mr. Kassimbhai has had in hand for several years the preparation of a Bible Dictionary in Marathi. He has it nearly finished, and after the completion of my Marathi Astronomy, I offered to go over the whole with him, and thoroughly *revise* it, and compare it with the latest authorities. We had already gone over nearly one fourth of the manuscript when this volume came, but we find that our work is ex*pedited* by this new help. What makes it specially adapted to our wants is, that it contains the gist of what one wants to know, "*in a nutshell*." It is much easier therefore to follow it as a standard than to search out what we require from a larger work like Dr. Smith's. I would be glad to have you convey my thanks to those friends through whose kindness this volume has been received,

There is nothing in the shape of a Bible Dictionary in the Marathi language, and I think that this work on which we are now engaged will be a very useful one. It will make quite a large book, the manuscript covering some 600 pages, I am anxious to make it as complete as possible, and you can understand how that some of the illustrations in this new volume very quickly attracted my attention. Do you think that the Am. Sunday School Union would be willing to furnish electrotype copies of a few of these cuts? Would it not be just in their line of work?

We have a considerable number of cuts which have been furnished by the Am Tract Society, taken mostly from Dr Barrow's "Sacred Geography & Antiquities" but I have selected a few from Dr Schaff's work, in the hope that you may be able to obtain them for us, as a donation from the S. S. Union. The list is as follows:

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When there are so many desirable cuts in the book I think I have made my list extremely moderate, to include only thirty.

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce.

P. S. I sent you by last mail five copies of my Marathi _Calendar_ for 1883. which please accept with the compliments of the Columbian Press. One has to depend very much upon his own resources here, and even the "_die_" with which the upper _curve_ is cut, was the work of my own hands.

H. J. B.

H. J. Bruce
Satara Aug. 29. 1882
Rec'd Oct. 9

Satara India Jan 17 1883.

My Dear Dr Clark.

I have the pleasure of sending you herewith a copy of the items which I have prepared for our Annual Report. Some of the items are of an encouraging character, and some are rather discouraging. But we try to give the bright and shady sides together. The four persons received to the church on profession of their faith do not represent all the spiritual results of our Satara operations. Two persons, one of them with a family, have gone to Bombay and have been baptized and received to communion, who were led to renounce heathenism through our labors here at Satara. One was a Mussulman who was for a considerable time under instruction here as an inquirer. He was received to our Mission Church in Bombay. The other was a Hindu of good caste who first heard our helpers preach at a large pilgrimage which is annually held 16 miles from here. He was received to the Independent Church in Bombay. Both these persons, I suppose, left Satara before making a profession of their faith in order to avoid the persecutions from their friends which would have been inevitable if they had remained here.

In like manner a young man of high caste came to us from Kolapur during the rainy season. He had been in Satara some days before I saw him, but he had had frequent conversations with our helpers, and had pretty much made up his mind to become a Christian. The first of my seeing him was, when, one morning, he came to me in great excitement. His first words were to ask "whether Saheb would desert him and give him up." I did not know what he meant, but on inquiry I found that his older brother had followed him to Satara, and was waiting outside the compound to take him away. I told him that his remaining here would depend upon his own voluntary decision. If he chose to remain and cast in his lot with the Christians I would never allow him to be carried away by violence, but if he wished to go I could not prevent it. He expressed a strong desire and determination to become a Christian, and he sat down and wrote a letter to his brother outside and to his friends at Kolapur, stating that he had found a better way than that in which he had been living, and that he would never leave it to return to his former life of sin. On seeing his determination the brother made no attempt to force him to return, but went without him to Kolapur. ¶ "This young man has since been in our Station School, and he has given us every satisfaction. He appears to be a humble-minded & faithful lad, and he was baptized and received to the Satara Church near the close of the year. He had previously heard something of the truth in the Sunday School of the Presbyterian Mission at Kolapur.

It is hardly necessary that I should say that I am having a great amount of work, secular as well evangelistic, in connection with Satara, Bhuinj, Wai, Panchgani and Mahableshwar. I regret exceedingly the necessity that has been laid upon Bro Wells to resign his connection with the Board. I had hoped that he would soon come back and relieve me of the Bhuinj District and Mahableshwar. But as it is I must do the best I can. I am learning more and more that I cannot afford to do anything myself which I can get others to do equally well. And so I am using some of my helpers in various ways aside from their regular work. By so doing I am able to carry on numerous operations at the same time, in different parts of my broad field. I am thankful to say that my health has been almost uniformly good during the year. We have however had more than usual sickness in our family

My Marathi Astronomy was published in October and I sent you two copies. It has been very well received by the public, and is likely to be a useful book.

I wrote you some months ago acknowledging the receipt of Dr Schaff's excellent Bible Dictionary, and giving a list of thirty illustrations from it which I requested that you would kindly try and obtain for our Marathi Bible Dictionary which is now being prepared by Rev Kassimbhai and myself. I hope that the Am. Sunday School Union will be willing to make us a grant of those cuts.

We are expecting to send our daughter Helen home with the Windsors in March.

We regret to hear of your ill health, but trust that ere this a kind Providence has restored you to your place and your work in the Missionary Rooms.

With kind regards from Mrs Bruce and myself I remain Very truly yours H. J. Bruce

H. J. Bruce — Satara
Jan. 17. 1883
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Satara, India, Feb 14 1883.

My Dear Dr Clark.

I have today received a copy of the Suggestions from the Prudential Committee in regard to cooperation with our native Christians. I do not know what practical form the matter may take at the next Mission Meeting, but I wish to say that so far as Satara is concerned I do not know how I could possibly have any more close connection, or cooperation ~~than I~~ with our native helpers than I have at present, and have had for years past. I am constantly in communication with them. I consult them on every important occasion. Scarcely a week passes in which I do not talk over some of our matters of interest with Rev Kassimbhai or Pastor Vithalrow, or in cases of importance with both together and perhaps with some other of our best men. So in reference to the Bhuing field Haribu who is now *acting* pastor of the church, and Rowji who is a staunch good man, are my constant advisers, and I would hardly think of making any very radical changes there without first

H. J. Bruce

consulting them. So, practically, your ideas have been carried out to the fullest extent at Satara. Cooperation might be made more formal, more cumbersome, and more expensive, but I do not know how it can be made more efficient. Our principal men here at Satara are as keenly alive to all the interests of the Satara field as I myself can be. I get many valuable suggestions from them, and they are free to make suggestions at any time.

I might add that during the rainy season we have had for years, a regular weekly conference with all our helpers who may be in Satara at the time. They come together in the early evening. Tea, sandwiches & cake are first passed around and we have a little social season. After tea we have singing, prayers, and reading and exposition of Scripture, generally the S. S. lesson for the next Sabbath. In these conferences we freely talk over any subject that may specially interest us at the time.

2. I enclose a copy of a circular note which has been prepared by Mission vote

P. S. Feb. 14. The leaders of religious thought in Satara have within a few days been agitated by a profound question in Brahman "Theology". The *Shankaracharya*, or great teacher of the Vedant Philosophy has come to Satara. He is supposed to be an incarnation of *Shiva*, and with his elephants and large retinue of attendants he is making a great display. His object in coming is to see if all the requirements of his religion are being properly observed by the people of his sect at Satara. As I was going into the city one morning a Brahman Pundit met me and said, with an apology, that he would like to ask me one question. Could I tell him what was the composition of *candles*? Was there any *animal fat* in them? He was *shocked* when I told him that they were formerly made, and I had myself made them, from *beef's tallow*. Latterly they had been made of other substances, and, I promised if he would come to my house I would tell him what I could find on the subject. Two days later I received ~~th~~ a letter through the Post Office, marked "*Most Urgent*", in which he says that their shrines are defiled if a candle containing any kind of animal fat is burned in them, and ~~could I~~ ~~he~~ asking me "kindly take the trouble to inform them whether candles contain any animal fat." He afterwards came twice to me and I gave him from the Cyclopedia something of the history of candle manufacture. I told him that it was highly improbable that he could find in the bazar any candles that did not contain more or less of animal substance, and that whatever might be said on the labels he could only be sure of their purity by having a portion of every package analyzed. I then took occasion to tell him that this was a very little things to rest upon for his salvation. They had been using bazar candles and their shrines were defiled. Though they might henceforth use pure vegetable oil, yet, what were they going to do about the past? They needed something more than pure vegetable candles at their shrines. They needed a Saviour who ~~was~~ able to save unto the uttermost all who come unto him!!

H. V. B.

Bruce

to be sent to the European residents of the Bombay Presidency. It was originally prepared by Bro R. A. Hume, but has been a good deal modified since it left his hands. I *mailed* some 2600 of them to as many *individuals*, on Monday last. The main object of it as you will see, is to give *information* and help to remove some of the misunderstandings and misconceptions that very widely exist in regard to Mission work. The daily papers of Bombay have no difficulty in meeting Sir Richard Temple's testimony, recently given in Boston, by declaring that Sir Richard *knows* nothing *about Missions*!!

3. We have recently had a little experience on the "*water question*." At one of our village outstations our helpers have been accustomed for a year and a half to go through a street leading directly from their house to the Krishna river, where they have obtained water from the steps leading down into the river. We spent Christmas week in that village and what with our Magic Lantern exhibitions, Kirttans, and large audiences for regular preaching, the Brahmans were a good deal exercised, and became very jealous of the influence of the Christians. Immediately

after we left they commenced a series of petty persecutions hoping thus to drive the Christians from their village. They tried first to prevent the Christians from going through that public street to the river lest the shadow of a Christian should fall upon a Brahman and he be defiled. One day six Brahmans, one of them with a large club, met our men, and with the most violent threatenings turned them back and would not let them go for water. Under these circumstances we had no resource but to appeal to a Magistrate. The Magistrate heard the story of the Brahmans, and without taking any of the evidence for the Christians, gave them an oral order not to go through that public street or take water from that public place in the Kristna river!! We then sent a legal application for a written copy of the order, that we might appeal to higher authority, and in a day or two a written order came, allowing the Christians to take water where they had previously taken it, and warning the Brahmans that they would interfere with them at their peril. This result was very satisfactory, but in the mean time the Brahmans had been in high glee. They had made a vow that if they got their case they would distribute five rupees worth of sweetmeats. This they had done, and afterwards they found to their chagrin that they had lost both their case and their sweetmeats. They are still threatening, and have sent a petition to the Collector, but I do not anticipate any further trouble.

4. I enclose a copy of a "Note" which I have printed to paste into some books that I am sending to Amherst College, at the request of the Trustees.

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce.

H. J. Bruce. Satara, 5
Feb. 14, 1883

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Satara, India, Feb. 20, 1883.

My Dear Dr Clark.

Bro Bissell has informed me that he wrote you by last mail in regard to Government Grants-in-aid for school buildings, in order to bring the matter before the Prudential Committee. I know nothing of what Bro Bissell has written, except that he sent a copy of the Government rule, but as I have strongly opposed the acceptance of this rule under *some* of its *bearings*, I think it may be well to state my objections to you. If, however, the Prudential Committee, after considering the different bearings of the rule consider it safe and wise to sanction its adoption by the mission I shall have nothing more to say. The main object of my opposition is now accomplished in the reference of the question to the Prudential Committee.

There are at present three different ways in which the application of this rule affects our work. I mention them separately.

1. When a school building is needed

in any new place, a site may be obtained and a building erected, the Mission paying one half the cost and the other half being received as a grant-in-aid from Government. So long as the school is kept up according to Government rules there is no difficulty. But if the Mission wishes to withdraw from that place the rule declares that the site and the buildings thereon shall become the property of Government. That is the money expended by the Mission on those buildings will be forfeited, or must be added to the cost of the school during the period through which the school has been maintained. If this understanding of the rule is correct, I have no special objection to it. If however the rule be interpreted, as it evidently may be, so as to compel the refunding of the amount advanced by the Government, or the re-purchasing of the premises for a sum "to be fixed by arbitration," then there are serious objections to it. It is casting the burdens of the present upon the unknown future. I have not known of any test case which shows which of the above interpretations is correct.

2. The second case in point is that of the High School building in Ahmednagar. This hardly comes under the rule at all. It is an exception for the reason that it is built on leased ground. The Mission was therefore simply required to give its promise that if the School ceased to be carried on according to Government rules, it would refund the amount Rs 550, which Government gave as grant-in-aid. I opposed this because I believed it to be contrary to the principles of the American Board to draw upon the future for present needs. If Bro Smiths health should fail and he be obliged to go home, it is hardly probable that any other present member of the Mission would wish to undertake to carry on the school. But to get out of the difficulty we should be obliged to pay the Rs 550 at once,

3. But my chief objection lies against the form which this question has assumed in Bombay. It is proposed to take Rs 1200 from Government as a grant-in-aid for building a Dormitory on the new Mission premises at Byculla. We have there fine new premises, bought directly from Government and so free from all the petty incumbrances which are com-

mon on real estate property in Bombay. These premises with the buildings &c are worth from 40,000 to 50000 rupees. And yet it is proposed to lay an incumbrance upon these premises, for Rs 1200, which will bind the Mission to keep up that school perpetually, or as an alternative, give Government "the option of purchasing the premises at a price fixed by arbitration!" As one of the guardians of the property of the Board in the Marathi Mission I felt that I could not consent to this arrangement, at least until it had been plainly stated to the Prudential Committee, and received their sanction.

You will perhaps remember that the C. V. E. Society in building their school buildings at Ahmednagar, declined to receive any grant-in-aid from Government on the ground that it would not be wise to place any such incumbrance upon their property for the sake of the small sum which they could, at best, draw from Government.

With kind regards I remain
Very truly yours
Henry J. Bruce.

Feb. 20. 1883

Panchgani India, May 16 1883.

Rev E. E. Strong, Editor of "Missionary Herald"

My Dear Mr Strong,

I fear you will get very impatient waiting for that account of Vishnupunt which I promised to give you more than a year ago. I confess that I have myself become rather impatient waiting for the Marathi manuscript of the Memorial of Vishnupunt which I fully expected would be ready for me to print on our little Columbian Press during the last rainy season. It has been delayed, like nearly every thing else in India, and only a few days ago I received the copy of the first three Chapters. This I read over yesterday thinking that I would find the material for the little account you asked for, but I found it so incomplete that ~~that~~ I concluded to wait until I get back to Satara where I can supplement it by reference to a number of printed books.

2. In your letter of Dec 24 1881 you stated that you had presented my bill for the engraving ($21,10) to Mr Ward and it had been paid

and charged to my account. There has evidently been some mistake in this matter. I have repeatedly asked our Treasurer if he had received any account of it from Mr Ward and he has replied that he has not. I have not therefore paid my share for the cuts and our Treasurer says that I cannot do so until it comes in the regular way from Mr Ward. Will you kindly see that the matter is made right.

3. In your letter referred to above you also ask how soon you may use the cut in the Herald. As the publication of my "Memorial" is so long delayed I will not put any further restrictions upon your ~~to~~ using it whenever you like. I hope to send you some incidents in Vishnupunts life after we return to Satara next month, and after that you need not wait longer for the Marathi Memorial to appear first. I have now no idea when I shall be able to get out the "Memorial"

With kind regards.

Very Truly Yours H. J. Bruce

Rev. H. J. Bruce
Panchgani. May 16. 1883
Rec'd. June 20. 1883.

Panchgaon, India May. 16, 1883.

My Dear Dr Clark,

Correction

I wish to correct an error in one of my statements in my letter of Feb. 20, with reference to receiving Grants in Aid for Buildings. I stated that the C. V. E. Society, in erecting its buildings at Ahmednagar, declined to receive the Grant-in Aid from Government because of the incumbrance that would thus be placed upon its property. At our recent meeting I was informed that the Society did actually receive Rs 6000. I therefore went to Mr Haig, the Supt. of the Normal School, to get the exact facts in the case. He told me that the money was received before the present rules came into operation and that the conditions were as follows. 1 That the building should be used for educational purposes. 2. If at any time it ceased to be used for educational purposes the money should be refunded. 3. In case the Society wished to sell the premises the Government should have a preemption right of purchase. Mr Haig told me that he had applied to Government for another grant of Rs 800 for a new building, if it could be allowed on the same terms as the previous grant. But he told me most emphatically that if the new grant were made under the present rules, he should decline to receive it.

2. It seems probable that the explanations of Government Officials may make the Rules not to mean what they say, and to mean what they do not say. If so, some of the objections urged in my previous letter may be invalid. Still I beg to suggest that if this principle of receiving Grants in aid for Buildings is adopted and acted upon, the sum total for which the Mission will become responsible to Government, will rapidly run up among the tens of thousands of rupees. The Mission will thus become anchored to a definite policy, and to a particular course of action, from which it cannot withdraw without the surrender of a large sum of money. The discussions at the recent meeting have thrown light upon certain points, but I still feel that it would be extremely unwise for the Mission to commit itself to any such policy.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

P. S. A copy of this letter is sent to Rev C Harding, Chairman of the Committee appointed to make further inquiries and representations in regard to this subject. H. J. B.

Panchgani, May 16, 1883.
Rec'd June 30.
Forwarded to Dr. [illegible]

Panchgani India May 26. 1883.

My Dear Dr Clark.

I presume my daughter Helen has reached America ere this, and I write to request that you will kindly ask the Prudential Committee for the usual appropriation for my three children, for the coming year. With Henry & Hattie I believe the year commences May 22, and with Helen from the date of her arrival.

Henry is now in Phillips Academy, Andover and expects to remain there another year.

Hattie is expecting to enter So Hadley Seminary next Fall. & Helen will probably be in Braintree, Mass. in the family of Rev A Mann, All three will be on expense, and hence I ask the appropriations from the Prudential Committee.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

P. S. If the above appropriations are made may I ask you to inform my children, so that they can draw their allowances when required H. J. B.

Panchgani, May 26, 1883.

Rec'd June 30.

Pl. — Mr Ward

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All noted, & the children notified: — L. S. Ward, Treas. July 3?/83.

Paid Henry July 8. —

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Satara, India, July 11. 1883

My Dear Dr Clark

About a year ago, when I received that copy of Dr Schaff's Bible Dictionary I wrote you, as you requested, telling you how useful it would be to me in preparing a Marathi Bible Dictionary for the press. I also showed my appreciation of it by sending through you a request for about thirty of the cuts, to be used in our Marathi work. I have never heard any thing in reply, and I do not know whether my letter was received. I have therefore written to the Sec. of the Am. Sunday School Union repeating my request. This letter I enclose to you, and I beg that you will kindly forward it, with a word of approbation of your own. I am sure that the cuts desired would add very much to the value of the book which we are preparing for the press.

I trust that, by the time this reaches America, a kind Providence will have brought you and Dr Alden safely back from your trip to Constantinople and the East.

With kind regards I am

Very truly yours

Henry J. Bruce

Satara, July 11. 1883.

Rec'd Aug. 25.

Satara, India, Jan. 21, 1884.

My Dear Dr. Clark.

I send you herewith some items which I have prepared for our Annual Report for 1883. I am sorry that there is not more of special interest to report, but I think that we who are on the ground, and our native assistants can see many things which give ground for encouragement, which it is impossible for us to present in a report. We all think that the work in the Satara District never seemed so promising as it does at this time. There is, on the one hand, a very general readiness to listen to the Gospel message, while on the other hand the powers of darkness have been stirred up to the stoutest opposition, as you will see from my report. If there is a "needs be" in this opposition then we can meet it with rejoicing, and appropriate to ourselves the Saviour's words recorded in Matt. 5: 11,12. I am just informed today that the principal land proprietor in the village of Wadut has declared that he will spend his entire estates but that he will drive the Christians out of the village. So it would seem from present appearances that our troubles there are not yet at an end. But it is a comfort to fall back upon the assurance that "the Lord reigns."

2. The Health report. — Both Mrs. Bruce & myself have enjoyed very good general health during the greater part of the year. The children were rather poorly during the rainy season but they too are much better now since the cold weather has come on. But while we have enjoyed very good health in general I must say that my eyes have given me a good deal of trouble during the last six months. At times they have been inflamed and sore, but even when there was no outward appearance of disease I was not able to use my eyes very much. By advice of our Civil Surgeon I went off for a trip of three weeks in December, visiting the great exhibition in Calcutta, and also stopping at Benares and at Allahabad. At Calcutta I went to see a regular Oculist. He told me that while there was no organic disease of the the eyes yet the trouble arose from over-work, and I must give them a long rest. He also advised a different kind of spectacles from those that

I was wearing. I think my eyes are stronger since my return, but still I have to be very careful of them.

3. I have written to you three times, at intervals of about six months, in regard to some illustrations from Dr Schaff's Bible Dictionary, which we are much in need of for our new Marathi Bible Dictionary. My letters have not been answered or referred to in any way, except that the last was acknowledged by date in a general letter to our Secretary. In July last I wrote a letter to the Sec. of the Am. Sunday Sch Union, asking for some of the "cuts." This letter I sent to you with the request that you would kindly forward it, with any endorsement which you might be able to give to it. As I have heard neither from the Sec. of the Am S.S. Union, nor from you, in regard to it, I do not at all know what to understand. We feel that the "cuts" indicated would be a most valuable addition to the Marathi Bible Dictionary, and I have felt very unwilling to put that work to press until we could either obtain these cuts, or know definitely that they could not be obtained.

In Oct. I learned that Bro. Abbott was personally acquainted with Dr Schaff. and he kindly consented to write to him and renew my request for the "cuts." We have not yet received his reply, but if you can do anything to aid in the matter I shall be very much ~~ed~~ obliged. One half of the work is nearly ready for the press, but I am not willing to print it until every effort has been made to secure the illustrations.

I requested the Sec. of the Bombay Tract Society to make application to the "Soc for Promoting Christian Knowledge" for a series of cuts from Dr Tristram's "Nat. Hist. of the Bible. After considerable consultation it was thought that the S. P. C. K. would be sure to decline to send the cuts to the Bombay Tract Society, on the principal that "the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans." and I was advised to apply personally. I am happy to say that the last mail brought me a favorable reply from the Sec. of the S. P. C. K. and the cuts will be sent out soon!

I fear you will think I have sent you a very long report. I see that ~~they~~ items have been copied just as they were prepared for the printer, quotation marks and all. I have to prepare the general Report of the mission again. (the fourth time.) and will send you copies as soon as they are printed.

With kind regards I am

Very truly yours Henry J Bruce.

June 21, 1884

Recd Mch 25, 1884

Satara, India July 17. 1884.

My Dear Dr. Clark.

The last mail brought us the welcome news that the American Board had received another large legacy; and that all our "cuttings" for the year had been restored. If the congratulations of one at a frontier outpost are of any account we at Satara certainly rejoice with you in this renewed evidence of God's care for the Board, and for the work which it is doing.

I am encouraged by this good news to make some statements to you which I did not intend to make at present. They are statements of a victory which has filled us all with joy, and of our further wants which cause us the deepest anxiety. You are aware that since I adopted the policy of establishing outstations in the villages of the Satara district, I have endeavored to carry out our plans with the utmost possible economy. Thus far I have depended solely upon the small allowance for rent which our rules give us with each of our native assistants. With these small means at hand, besides paying rents & repairs for all my helpers at Satara Bhuinj & Wai, I have at *Medha* a good house, in a good situation, rented for two rupees a month, — at Wadut a good substantial house, for two families, with a lease of the land for 20 years, the house having been bought at auction, and the whole costing Rs 251, — at Degaw a rented house in the Mahar wadi, at one rupee a month, — at Shendre and Koregow I required the Mahars to furnish houses for the teachers as a condition of having schools. The cost of the house at Wadut has left my *rent account* indebted to me some Rs 87. But for our work we value the house at Wadut *beyond price*. It is simply indispensable

It will probably occur to you that the arrangement at Shendre and Koregow is best of all, and that the people should be required to furnish the houses for their teachers. This is the principle on which I started the outstation work, but I find that there are insuperable obstacles to it. The only people who care for our schools are the *Mahars* and of course the houses thus furnished are in the Mahar quarters of the villages. Hence the influence of our helpers who live in the Mahar wadis, is absolutely nothing, among the higher classes of the people. They are simply ignored, and treated as Mahars. Another reason why this plan will not work is that it places us in a position of dependence upon a class of people who are notoriously shiftless and stupid. It is consequently impossible to maintain any discipline in respect to our Schools. If we demand of the people that they must comply with certain indispensible rules, or we will close their school, they are in a position at once to deprive us of our houses. For these reasons I have come to the firm conviction that we must have houses of our own, independent of any particular classes of people, in all the principal centers of our work in the Satara district. For these same reasons I have already withdrawn the teacher that I had at Koragaw, and I am expecting soon to withdraw those at Degaw and Shendre also. They have all accomplished a certain work among the Mahars themselves, but their influence has not extended beyond the Mahar wadis in which they have lived.

Another fact should here be stated. It is, that it is extremely difficult to get any suitable houses anywhere in the Satara district, on account of the opposition, open and secret, of the Brahmans. Our last printed report contains an extended account of the "fight" that I have had to keep up, for the last year and a half, with a few Brahmans at Wadud. It was their deliberate purpose, at first, to prevent our getting a foothold in the village, and now that we are well established there, their aim is to annoy us as much as possible. I am happy to say however that this opposition comes from less than a dozen Brahmans while the people generally are now very friendly with the Christians. And so it is all about. While the common people hear the preaching of the Gospel "gladly," there are always in every place, certain Brahmans, men of influence, who, by threats, and by bringing caste influence to bear, can prevent our obtaining houses for our helpers to live in.

You will now understand what I

meant by the "victory" referred to at the beginning of this letter. I have stated that I have withdrawn the teacher who was living in the Mahar wadi at Koregaw. But in doing this I had no intention of abandoning Koregaw as an outstation. It is a large and important place 12 miles east of Satara, and is the *county-seat* for that district. Moreover the Railway now being constructed from Poona to Dharwar will have its nearest station to Satara, at Koregaw. We have long been deeply impressed with the importance of occupying Koregaw as a preaching station, but the difficulty was in obtaining houses for our preachers to live in. The sight of our Christians in the streets was enough to put the Brahmans on their guard, and lead them to inquire the object of their coming. By perseverance, however, in *secret* inquiries, we at last found a house admirably suited to our purposes, whose owner lived in another village several miles away. This favoring circumstance enabled me to send my agents to the owner of the house without fear of detection by the Brahmans of Koregaw, The owners (two brothers,) refused to sell the house on any terms, but they were willing to lease it for a long period. There was a mortgage on the house, which, principal and interest, amounted to Rs 200. and this must be removed before the house would be available. After a good deal of effort a contract was finally made and registered in legal form by which I was to advance the Rs 200 to release the mortgage, and in return I am to have the free use of the house & land for 17 years, or 204 months. We estimated the rental value of the houses, (it is large enough for two families,) at Rs 3 a month. Of this amount I have advanced one rupee a month for 204 months. and have allowed one rupee a month for repairs, and one rupee a month for interest on the sum advanced. The contract was made, signed and registered, ~~and~~ the mortgage paid, and the papers endorsed by the mortgager and in my possession almost before the Brahmans knew what we were doing, otherwise the effort would have been a failure. As it was our negotiations came near failing at several points, and I have no doubt that they would have failed had they not been backed by the most earnest prayers of the Satara church, and by the God who is the hearer of prayer.

So greatly did we feel the need of this enlargement that I did not hesitate for a moment to advance the money required from my own allowances. Mrs Bruce remarked (in a joking way,) "We can let our clothes become like those of the Gibeonites, but we *must* have the house". I have, however, no fear of the Gibeonites at present. The trouble is that we cannot stop here. There are two other large cities in which the same tactics must be employed and expense must be incurred, that we may establish preaching stations in them. They are Rahimatpur 15 miles south-east of Satara, & Karad 32 miles south. In a conference with my principal assistants a few days ago we came to the conclusion that with our present working force we could man only one of these last named places and we decided to take up Karād as the most important of the two. I shall therefore soon initiate efforts to secure houses for two families at Karad, and if successful I shall hope to send two of my present helpers there.

But the news that came in last evening of the large legacy to the Board led me to question whether it must still needs be that Rahimatpur should be left without resident preachers. We have not the men now to occupy both Karad & Rahimatpur even if I can secure ~~places~~ houses for them, but in the Contingent estimates for 1885 you will find an item of "Two new teachers "for Satara," and I have written this letter as a plea that, in the present more favoring circumstances of the Board, that item may be granted. As for the sums advanced for securing houses I cannot bring the subject before the Mission before the October meeting, and so I shall take upon myself the risk and the responsibility for all sums thus expended.

If I could hear from you in regard to the two additional men for 1885, before the Oct. meeting it would enable me to make the best arrangements possible in Ahmednagar at that time. In the mean time I shall set about "house-hunting" in good earnest.

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce

P. S. No part of the above was written for publication but simply for your own private information, and if need be, for the Prudential Committee.

P. S. July 21. Since this letter was written, your letter to the Secretary has been forwarded to me for perusal.

#93.

Satara July 17. 84.
Recd. Aug. 22.

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Satara India Sept. 8. 1884.

My Dear Dr Clark.

I send you these slips cut from the "Indian Witness" and the "Bombay Guardian," that you may see one of the dangers to which the newly adopted policy of the Mission and the Board, (of receiving Building Grants from Government,) is likely to lead.

Indian Witness Aug 30 1884

Complaints reach us from many points in the North-West against the proposed "conscience clause" in the educational code. This is nothing less than a rule making attendance upon religious instruction optional in all aided schools. Many missionaries are of the opinion that such a rule will break up the grant-in-aid system altogether, and they contend that the proposal is contrary to the whole spirit of the grant-in-aid rules. A few mischievous agitators are to be found in every town, and these worthies will see to it that no parents permit their boys voluntarily to receive Bible lessons. The end of it all may be that most missionaries will give up the grants, but at the same time make their schools much more positively Christian, and thus in the end do more effective work than they have ever done before.

Bombay Guardian Sept 6. 1884.

—In some great Empires education is compulsory. In India the people have the right to decide not only whether their children shall go to school or not, but, in case they decide to send them, to choose what school they shall attend. They have this option, but they have not the right to determine what studies shall be pursued in the school attended by their children. But we are now told that it is the intention of the educational authorities to require that edu-

in this latter sense, in all schools that receive grants-in-aid. It is not enough that they who attend Mission Schools and they who send their children to them, should do it freely, of their own choice, as it present, but that the scholars should be free to decline attendance at certain classes, that is, classes in which Christianity is taught. Consistency would require that in all the schools, aided or directly supported, the scholars should be politely asked what classes they feel inclined to attend, and permitted to absent themselves from classes in which Mathematics or Grammar or English History is taught. If this is what the Educational Commission have been securing, it may seem to some that laudations and honours have been not very happily bestowed. Such an order as we have referred to would be a virtual invitation to the Natives to decline having religious instruction given to the scholars. If such a law is made, the result will be that in most Mission Schools, the Grant-in-aid will be respectfully declined.

If the law referred to is passed I shall immediately withdraw our Satara School from Gov. inspection. But how about those schools which have taken "Building Grants," and given bonds not to withdraw from Government inspection, unless the grant is refunded! Although I am the only one in the Mission who has opposed this principle from the beginning yet I still think that the accepting of these building grants, with the accompanying *pledges* is a *great mistake*. It would be a direct violation of good faith for Government to make any such *ex post facto* rules. But Government has the *power*, and I am sorry to say that it has very little of that "*conscience*" which it seems to guard so carefully with the natives.

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce

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H. J. Bruce
Satara Sept. 8 1884

Satara, India Feb 7 1885.

My Dear Dr. Clark.

I am very late in sending you my annual letter, and the items that I have prepared for the Mission Report, this year, but in the early part of Jan. I was too much pressed with work to undertake anything that was not imperatively necessary. and for two weeks past I have felt so weary, from over work, and such a want of energy that I have not been able to accomplish what I would like to have done. In regard to health I would say that I have been generally pretty well during the year, and have been able to continue quite steadily at my work. Mrs Bruce has not been very strong. You will be glad to know that she gave birth to a daughter on the 29th of Jan. Both mother and child are doing well, and I hope that Mrs B. will soon be stronger than before.

2. I send you herewith the items I have prepared for the Report. Some of them are of considerable interest, and show an encouraging state of things in certain directions, Others will show that it is a difficult field that we have to

work, and that it requires some of the wisdom of the serpent as well as a great deal of faith and patience, in order to carry on our work. I would commend to your notice the paragraphs on "Changes in the Satara District," and "Spiritual Results. Why not greater?" I think that by reading these paras you will see something of the difficulties that we have to contend against. It seems to me a very marvelous thing that we have been able to obtain convenient and suitable houses in three such important cities as Koregaon Rahimatpur and Karad, in spite of the most strenuous efforts of the adversary. But the Lord led the way, and He it was that gave the success.

3. As the Minutes of the Oct. Meeting contained a resolution approving of my plan for enlargement in the Satara District, and asking for Rs 300 for immediate use in obtaining houses in the above named places, perhaps I ought to state here just what I have done. I informed you in my letter of July last that we were obliged to pay Rs 200 down, to secure the house at Koregaon. This sum I paid out of my own personal allowances, and have made no charge of it to the Mission.

The free use of the houses (for two families,) is thus secured to the Mission for 17 years on condition that the Mission keep them in repair. The first repairs changes and additions have cost Rs 62-14-0, but probably very little will have to be done to them now for several years. At Rahimatpur I have leased a house for Rs 2 a month, for ten years, and the repairs are to be made by the Mission. The house has been put in good repair, a new room and a verandah built, at a cost of Rs 84-15-3. At Karad I have leased two houses adjoining each other, for three years for Rs 5. a month, the owners to make all the repairs. For preparing the leases, and for advance rent I have paid Rs 38-7-6. which with the two sums mentioned above makes Rs 186-4-9. the whole amount already expended out of the Rs 300 asked for. I am not yet certain whether any of the balance will be required or not.

P.S. With reference to Dr Alden's letter to Dr Bissell, received since the above was written, I would say that the Rs 186-4-9 were charged in last year's accounts, and were more than covered by savings from other appropriations for my District. H.J.B.

4. In making my annual report I think I should mention the satisfaction which I feel at the state of the Satara church. A good feeling prevails among the members and they have entered most earnestly and prayerfully into all our plans for enlargement and for the work in general. While there have been serious troubles in the church at Sholapur, and the

~~The free use of the houses, (for two families)~~
church at Ahmednagar, I cannot but feel very thankful that the Lord has kept the Satara church, not only from internal dissensions, but in a condition of earnest prayerfulness which is favorable to aggressive work. I am telling them now that their faith has been sufficient "to build houses," but that it has not been able to accomplish those spiritual results which we so much desire to see. I trust that by the blessing of God their faith may soon rise to that degree that shall enable us to see more spiritual results.

5. Your letter of Oct. 22, to Dr. Bissell, in reference to Mr Winsor's proposed Industrial School, was forwarded to me some time ago. I have written upon Dr Bissell's circular what I have to say about the Industrial School, and it has already gone to you; but there are some statements and intimations in your letter that I think require some explanation on our part. The same intimations have been made, though less fully, in some of your previous letters, and I must confess that they have had a most discouraging effect upon me, and given me a good deal of anxiety in regard to the future of our Mission. I cannot think that you would have arrived at such conclusions if you had

understood more fully the precise position of the Mission in its relation to the Native Churches, and to the non-Christian community. I will quote a few sentences from your letter, which will give the substance of what I refer to. You say:– "In looking over the tabular view of last year, we find 193 out of 1458 communicants, employed by the Mission, and over 1700 pupils under instruction, many of whom receive aid from our treasury. Hence it is not too much to say that well-nigh 2000 persons are directly or indirectly receiving aid from our Mission Treasury. This state of things has been of long continuance & is by no means favorable to the development of our work in your Mission field. ~~The~~ Our Committee have hesitated year after year in voting so large sums for the support of Native Agencies and School enterprises. x x x" — "The Marathi Mission is in many respects exceptional in its situation and circumstances. It is our oldest Mission, and yet by reason of the people hitherto reached, it is one of our feeblest." It is unquestionably true that the field occupied by the Marathi Mission is a very difficult one to work. Even those who have been longest in the field, are constantly meeting with difficulties which rise up with surprising vigor and power.

I do not, however, know of one of our number who is disposed to yield to discouragements, or who is not strong in faith that the work is going on steadily, if not rapidly, to accomplish the desired results. In this country, where the work of the Mission is best known, the Marathi Mission has the reputation of being one of the most successful Missions in India. Though not in the number of its converts, yet in some things it has advanced beyond any other Mission, probably, in India, as for example the self-support of Churches. I do not know how you could arrive at the conclusion that "well-nigh 2000 persons are directly or indirectly receiving aid from our Mission Treasury," from the fact that there are 1700 pupils in our schools. You certainly cannot think that all these pupils are supported directly or indirectly by Mission funds! I have no means of knowing just how many of them are supported, wholly or in part, by Mission funds, but I should be surprised to find that more than from 300 to 400 of them were so supported. But I wish to speak more particularly about our Native Agents. Your letter implies that a very large proportion of our communicants are employed by the Mission, and I have been led by this intimation to make some comparisons. I have not the Madura Mission Report for 1883, but the following figures are taken from their report of 1882. In Dec 1882 they had 2886 church members, and 412 native agents. This is almost exactly 1 to 7. Our ratio for 1883 was 193 to 1458, or 1 to 7,55, or nearly eight per cent better than theirs. This alone would not suffice to determine the relative position of the two Missions, for it would be possible that the native churches had done more there than here. But looking at the contributions for the same years mentioned above we find that the contributions of the Madura churches averaged *less than two* rupees for each member, while those of the Marathi churches averaged *more than three rupees* for each member. I do not see how these figures can be made to indicate that the Marathi Mission is "one of the feeblest" Missions of the Board! The Missionary Herald for Jan. 1885 has just come to hand, and in the tabular view of the Missions there given I notice that the proportion of Communicants employed as native agents in some of the other Missions, is as great as, or greater than, in the Marathi Mission, though unfortunately the amount of contributions in those Missions is not stated. Witness the following for example.

	Native Agents	Communicants	Proportion.
Zulu Mission	120	729	1 to 6+
Western Turkey	239	1966	1 " 8,2+
Ceylon	292	1130	1 " 3,8+
Foochow	61	255	1 " 4,1+
Madura (Later than the above)	386	2817	1 " 7,2+
Marathi (Report for 1884)	207	1593	1 " 7.2+

In comparing the Marathi Mission with the Madura Mission it should be remembered that the Madura Mission field is comparatively compact, covering little territory, while ours is spread out over territory three or four times as large. We need therefore a correspondingly large force of native agents to enable us to work the field with any success. Let me now give you some particulars in regard to the Satara District alone. This may be taken to be commensurate with the Satara Collectorate, as I am the only Foreign Missionary resident in the Collectorate. Our Presbyterian Brethren at Kolhapur and Sangali reach over into the southern part of the Satara District somewhat, but I shall speak of the Collectorate as a whole. It contains 5000 square miles of territory, and is therefore two-thirds as large as the *whole* *Madura field*, and many times as large as the Jaffna District in Ceylon. It is as large as the five western counties of Mass., - Berkshire, Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester, - all put together. Its population numbers nearly 1.100.000. or 213 persons to each square mile. There are 14 large cities and towns, and 1329 villages. The *Kunabis* or Cultivators number 583,000, or more than one-half of the whole population. The Brahmans are 48,000. and the low castes, including Chambhars Mahars, Mangs &c are about 150.000. The Brahmans are exceedingly bigoted and crafty, and although they number only ~~about~~ one to about 22 of the population, yet they hold all the other classes in priestly and superstitious subjection, and their influence is almost wholly in opposition to Christianity. To work this field of so great extent, and such enormous difficulties, I have, including a Colporteur of the Bombay Bible Society, *twenty* native agents. These I have scattered through a portion of the District, as I have been able, by forming new *outstations* in desirable places, that there may be different and widely separated *centres* of light and Gospel influences. My Kirttan Band, with head-quarters at Satara, I send out on tours extending fifty miles to the East and South, and twenty to thirty miles in other directions. Leaflets and Tracts from the Columbian Press and the Bombay Tract Society have been scattered abroad by the tens of thousands, without any expense to the Mission. But with all that we can do we cannot but feel how inadequate are our working forces for the work which we have to accomplish. And yet we are told that the "Committee have hesitated year after year in voting so large sums for the support of Native Agencies and School enterprises." I know of no way in which the work can be accomplished so *economically*, or so *successfully* as by a good strong force of Native Agents, *properly directed and superintended*. They can go where the Missionary cannot, they can stay longer in the districts, can understand the ideas and feelings of the people better, and can better gain the sympathies of the people than any foreigners can. Moreover the cost of a single Missionary family would be sufficient for the employment of from 15 to 20 native agents. You can see therefore how discouraging it is to us to have our appropriations for Native agencies cut down to the very lowest point. To some of us at least, it is like cutting off our right hands, and then expecting us to do the same work as before. So vitally important does this matter seem to me, that I have, at present, three men in employ, for whose salaries I am personally responsible. Two of these were placed on the "Contingent List" in May last, and their salaries may yet be allowed. But what I feel even more this is the cutting down of our usual touring allowances by Rs 100, in order to bring our estimates within the required $31.000. This is likely to restrict the touring of the Kirttan Band, unless the salaries of the two men mentioned above are allowed, in which case I shall provide for the touring from other sources.

There are many other things which I intended to say in regard to this matter, but I have already trespassed upon your patience. We do not consider that the single person added to the Satara church & reported in the statistical tables, is any adequate representation of what is accomplished by our efforts. We see encouraging progress from year to year apart from the additions to the churches, although the gathering in of souls is the end and aim of all our labors. Old prejudices are giving way, old foundations are being uprooted, old ideas are giving place to new, and the way of the Lord is being prepared. In Satara, as in some other places, there have been meetings of high caste people other than Brahmans, to consider how they could throw off the galling yoke of Brahmanism, and have no more connection with Brahmans. Only yesterday I heard of a quasi rebellion of the middling classes against the Brahmans in the strong Brahmanical city of Wai. All these things tend in the right direction and we rejoice in them. Besides every year and every month enlarges the circle of those who hear the Word gladly, and extends the direct influences of the Gospel.

6. I think you will be glad to know that the additions to all our churches in 1884, were 161. and the net increase in membership is 135. I have prepared a table showing "A Comparison" for the introduction to our Annual Report, and I will enclose a copy of it.

With kind regards from Mrs Bruce and myself. I remain

Very truly yours

Henry J. Bruce

Satara, Ind., J

Rec'd March 16.

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Satara India Feb 25 1885.

My Dear Dr. Clark.

I learn this morning from a letter from my daughter Hattie, very much to my surprise, that when Hattie went to Mr Ward to draw Helen's allowance for last year she was told that I had never applied for any allowance for Helen, I feel very sure that I wrote to you about this matter at the time of Helen's going home. Whether the letter never reached you, or whether after reaching you my application was never acted upon, I do not know. Only last week I received Helens final accounts for 1884, and as nothing from the Board was credited in them I wrote to ask her about it, I certainly supposed that she was drawing the usual allowance from the Board. As it has been omitted by some mistake, I wish now to ask that the usual allowance be made to Helen from the time of her arrival in America, in May, (or June?) 1883. My children need the help as they have

Satara,

all been put on short allowances. Henry is in College, but receives nothing now from the Board. Hattie will be 20 next year and will cease to draw from the Board, although she is in the Seminary, and Helen is an heavy expense, at school, in Braintree Mass.

Will you kindly bring this application before the Committee, and communicate the result to Helen, that she may be able to draw the allowance without further delay.

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce

P. S. I wrote you fully, two weeks ago, & hope that that letter, which contained my annual report, and was sent Registered, has reached you in due time.

H. J. B.

Satara Feb. 25. 85

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Satara, India, Mar 18 1885

My Dear Dr Clark.

Your favor of Feb. 7th, came this morning. I am sorry it is too late to follow any of your suggestions about the Mission Report, for the Report is finished, and the last pages of it are now passing through the printers hands. I will however bring it before the Mission at the May Meeting and the Mission can then decide in regard to the matter for future years. I think you will find a good many ~~fa~~encouraging things in the Report when it reaches you, although some things may not be just as we could wish.

I wrote you a long letter about a month ago and sent with it copies of items which I had prepared for the Report. That letter will give you the present outlook of our Satara work. I may say, however, that our cold season labors were more than usually satisfactory, and our Church is quite enthusiastic over the new Outstation which we have formed, after so much fighting with the powers of this world. Nothing has occurred here for a long time which has so increased the faith of the church, as this enlargement of our work by pushing out our advanced forces into the enemy's country. But I do not think that we can stop here. This morning our Kirttan band came to the bungalow, and after singing and prayer they started off on a fifteen days tour to Phaltan the capital of a native state 36 miles N. E. from Satara. One of my men went out there two months ago, and his report was so favorable that I have felt that there might be "a call of God" for permanent work in that direction. The Rajah offered every assistance and the Mahars promised a school of 75 pupils &c. But I wait for further reports before I enlarge upon this subject.

With kind regards from Mrs Bruce and myself I remain

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce

Satara March 18

A Comparison. — While this Report is in preparation for the press, the statistics of the Congregational Churches in America, for the last year, have come to hand. There are 4092 churches reported, while the "Home Expenditures" and "Benevolent Contributions" of only 3000 churches are given. It may be presumed that the 1092 churches whose expenditures and contributions are not reported, are the smallest and weakest of all. If therefore 12½ per cent. be added to the total amount raised by the 3000 churches reported, it may fairly represent the whole sum raised by the 4092 churches, and furnish a basis for the following comparison. It is difficult to make any proper comparison between countries where almost all standards vary widely. There is, however, one standard which is common to all lands, and that is the price of a day's labor of a common laboring man. This must of necessity bear certain definite relations to money values, and to the cost of living, in the various countries. The value of a day's labor in our country, however small it may be, may properly be compared with the value of a day's labor in another country, however great it may be, as a test of benevolent giving. With these notes of explanation we give the following table:—

	American Congregational Churches	Marathi Mission Churches
Whole number of churches compared --	4.092	23.
Whole number of church-members --	401.549	1593
Added on profession during last year	17.923	161
Percentage of additions to whole number	4.46+	10.10+
Total amount of money raised for Home and Benevolent purposes --	$6.084.034	Rs.3959.+
Average amount to each church-member	$15.15	Rs.2-7-9
Price of a day's labor of a common laboring man. -----	$2.00	Rs.0-3-0
Number of days' labor contributed by each church-member --	7.57	13,237

Rec'd from Rev. H. J. Bruce
March 16. 1885.

Satara, India, June 8, 1885.

My Dear Dr Clark.

I have three letters from you to acknowledge at this time, dated Mar. 17, Apr. 8, and Apr. 24, besides two letters to Dr Bissell which were received during our late Mission Meeting, and which cheered us all very much. Your letter of Mar 17. (to me.) was read before the Mission, together with that part of my letter of Feb 9. to which it was a reply. While the Mission was much interested in the letter, and the brethren were all encouraged by it, yet there are two points on which we think you still lack information, and I was requested to write you in regard to those points.

1. I may introduce the first point by quoting a few sentences from your letter. You say: "I think the question is a very important one as to the employment of native evangelists rather than of local preachers. ~~My~~ Objection to the large number of persons employed and assisted by you as a Mission has turned largely on the fact that your native agents were usually local preachers,

and received so very little relatively from the people. x x x it is not well that local preachers should be supported wholly from our funds anywhere. It may be necessary to abandon the practice of setting local preachers at any one point except some assistance is rendered by the people. &c &c"

It is not quite clear to us what is meant by the term "local preachers" in the above. The only class of our native agents to which the term will at all apply, is the pastors of churches. They may, in a sense, be called local preachers, but you are aware that all our native pastors have for several years been entirely supported by the churches, without a single rupee being granted to them by the Mission. Aside from the pastors we could recall only two or three men, who could in any sense be called local preachers. Our preachers and Bible-readers are evangelists. They must of necessity have some central place for their homes, where their families reside, but they are expected to tour through a certain district which is assigned to each, and to visit the villages in that district as often as they can. This has always been our plan and I think it is adhered to by all the brethren, although we are aware that some of our native agents are much more faithful than others, and can accomplish much more work." For example I may mention Vithoba my Bible-reader at Wadale, whose name has been so often mentioned in connection with the water difficulties there. He tells me that he visits 25 different villages, and although there have been no conversions there, yet he is known and highly respected by the people, (except a few Brahmans,) all over the district. The influence of such a man is, I think, invaluable, and I cannot but think that the fruit of his efforts will sometime appear. Vithoba is something of a doctor, in his way, and is often called even to other villages to minister to the sick. A few days ago some high caste people of a neighboring village made a dinner, and soon after the dinner a dozen men were taken violently ill, as if poisoned from a neglected copper cooking vessel. Vithoba was sent for with all haste, and whether by his medicines, or in the ordinary course of nature, the men were relieved. But it was all the same to them. They thought he had relieved them, and

~~they~~ were very grateful to him. As night approached they dared not let him return home, lest they should meet him in the night, and so ~~they~~ provided his evening meal and kept him there over night. By such means, as well as by the direct preaching of the Gospel, our native agents are trying to *win* the people, and I am sure that the effort cannot fail to have its effect for good."

2. The second point which I wish to call your attention to, is in regard to our large class of so-called *teachers*. For convenience sake our native agents are divided into several classes, as Pastors, Licensed Preachers, Bible-readers and Teachers. Young men as they graduate from the Normal School are usually first appointed as teachers. But it does not necessarily follow that they will be employed in *school-work*. They *may* be so employed, or not, according to circumstances. If they are *needed* for school work they are so employed, but it often so happens that those whose names are in our list of teachers, are employed

wholly in preaching and evangelistic work. There are times when, for reasons which we cannot always understand, our schools do not prosper, and when it seems best on the whole to dismiss the school and employ the teacher in other work. Such a breaking up of a school may be temporary, continuing only a part of the year during the busy seasons, or it may be permanent. For two or three years the schools in my district have been at a very low ebb. While I have eight names on my teacher's list I have only three schools at present, and the remaining "teachers" are employed as evangelists. Besides this, in order to increase my force of preachers I have, with Mission approval, asked for "two new teachers," in the contingent estimates for 1886. There is scarcely a hope of my getting any additional experienced preachers for Satara, and so my only hope is to take young graduates technically as "teachers," although they may be put under training for evangelistic work.

3. With reference to your letter of April 24. in regard to statistical tables, I would say that I prepared a full page blank form

for "Educational Statistics," and a smaller form for representing "Work for Women," which were presented to the Mission at its recent meeting, and unanimously adopted for our annual Report. I hope you will find it to include all the items which you would wish to have.

4. June 9th. I have this morning received your favor of May 5th, acknowledging receipt of copies of our Mission Report. It could hardly be expected that Dr. Bissell, with all his manifold other labors could give very much time to the Sirur District in Mr Winsor's absence, or have very much of interest to report from there. As for the plans for the Industrial School, no member of the Mission, except Mr Winsor, so far as I know, knew anything about them until our recent meeting at Mahableshwar, when Mr W. explained them somewhat fully. X

5. You will be glad to know that we have received a generous grant (Rs 831-1-6.) from the American Tract Society, to aid in the publication of the Marathi Bible Dictionary, which Mr Kassimbhai & I have

had in preparation for several years. We are expecting to put it to press now very soon, and I hope it will be ready in six months or so. We are now putting the last touches upon it in manuscript.

Interest at Satara. Old seed bearing fruit

6. I am gratified on my return from Mahableshwar, to find that the Satara church has not been idle during our absence. There is considerable interest in several different quarters, and there are now five persons who profess to be ready to receive baptism, and some of them the church is hoping to receive next Sabbath. Two of these (Mangs.) a man and wife, live 16 miles east of Satara and may be said to be the first fruits of our new outstation at Koregaw. The man himself says he first heard the Gospel from Mr. Dean many years ago. This is encouraging in many ways, and shows that though we may have to wait long, yet the preaching of the word will not be in vain!

7. You mention in your letter of Mar 17 that I do not ask for a Missionary Associate at Satara, but rather for an increase of native agency.

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If I could be assured of a few years of continuous service here myself, I think I should prefer to see a part at least of the expense that would be required for another Missionary family here, expended in developing new outstations and manning them with good faithful native evangelists. But I cannot conceal from myself the fact that neither Mrs Bruce nor myself have very much reserved strength to draw upon, now after nearly ten years of service in this our *second* campaign. Before going to Mahableshwar I began to question seriously whether we should be able to hold out much longer. But the visit to M. has done us both good and we have nothing *definite* to say now about going home. It is not probable, however, in the ordinary course of things that that event can be postponed very long. When we remember that there are no less than *five* members of the Mission who are in very similar condition, it becomes a very serious problem how our Mission work can be sustained. I was hoping, almost against hope, that Arthur Bissell might take the Bhuing field and get somewhat into the work so as to be able to relieve me when the necessity should come. But all our hopes are sadly disappointed in the necessity which came upon him so suddenly of taking his wife to America. But these facts will show you the urgent necessity of our having large reinforcements at a very early day.

June 15. *Mail-day.* — No baptisms took place yesterday (Sunday) but it is hoped that there will be some soon. *Opposition* is *rampant.* The Brahmans at Wadut have laid before a Magistrate a false charge against the Christians of *defiling one* of *their temples*!! The emissaries of Satan are numerous and very active. Pastor Vithalrow preached a most excellent sermon yesterday on the text "Hast thou but one blessing, my father?" It was with reference to our work here and the application was very good.

Very truly yours

H. J. Bruce

Satara, June

Rec'd July 15.

The Marathi Bible Dictionary

The Bombay Guardian, Jan. 16. 1886, says:- "We have much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of a copy of the Marathi Bible Dictionary. Prepared from the English by the Rev. Hasam Mahomed Dhalwani, and edited by the Rev. Henry J. Bruce. Mr. Bruce has long had his heart set upon the production of this work, and we congratulate him upon the success that has crowned his efforts and those of his colleague. The aim has constantly been to produce a book that would be a real aid to all students of the Bible, and to put everything in the form in which it will be most easily grasped. Mr. Bruce has very high ideals of perfection and great patience in laboring for their accomplishment. We know not whether he will be satisfied with the get-up of this book, but everybody else will, we should judge. It is a beautiful volume of 456 pp 8vo. yet by no means bulky. The copious illustrations are a peculiar and attractive feature. It contains a map prepared by Mr. Bruce, exceedingly well adapted to assist in ascertaining distances. We have written this hurried noticed as we are leaving Bombay for a week or two. and shall have occasion to notice it more fully hereafter."

The Indian Witness Jan 16. 1886 says:- The Rev. H. J. Bruce's long promised Bible Dictionary, in Marathi. is out, and may be pronounced a greater success than those best acquainted with modern Indian missionary literature anticipated. It is a marvel of condensation, beautifully printed, copiously illustrated. and priced at only Rs1-12. Dr. Schaff's Bible Dictionary has been made the basis of the book, but very few of the articles have been translated without abridgment or enlargement, or some other change. Among the original articles are several on the Natural History of the Bible, a subject in which Mr. Bruce is a specialist. This Dictionary will prove a greater acquisition to the Native Church than the valuable Commentaries and Reference Bibles which have been prepared for its use. The author's permission has already been asked for its translation into Bengalee and Hindustani. Although we have spoken of Mr. Bruce as the author, we observe in the preface that he cordially divides the credit with Mr. Kassim Mohamed Dhalwanee, an old convert of the Ahmednagar Mission.

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Satara, India, Jan 20 1886.

My Dear Dr Clark.

Your letter of Dec. 12. was received this morning. I thank you for your kind inquiries. It is certainly a good while since I wrote you. but I think I have never worked harder, or accomplished more in the given time, than I have in the last seven months. It has been a constant wonder to me that my health has been such that I have been able to bear the strain from day to day. But one big job,— the Bible Dictionary,— is off my hands now, and it is a relief from a heavy burden. Another big job, however,— the Annual Mission Report,— is just coming on, and I am not likely to have much time to be idle.

I am not prepared yet to send you my annual report. I was not expecting to write you for two or three weeks yet. but as your letter has come in I send on this sheet as a preliminary report. At the time of writing my last we were looking for immediate fruit, and were expecting some persons to unite with the church. These expectations have been fully realized. Seventeen persons have been received to the church since that time, eight of whom were children from the Station School, and nine were adults received directly from the heathen. The church has been in good working condition, and has been greatly encouraged by these additions. I know that you will rejoice with us.

I am feeling very weary and cannot give particulars by this mail. I hope to do so before very long.

2. Yesterday I sent you by Book Post, Registered, a copy of my Marathi Bible Dictionary. I will try to send a duplicate copy by Bro Gates. This book is being well received by the Christian public, and I enclose copies of remarks made by the "Bombay Guardian," and the "Indian Witness." The Editor of the "Witness," in a private note says:- "We are all charmed with the Bible Dictionary." Application has already been made for permission to translate it, "unabridged and unchanged," into Bengallee and Urdu.

3. Probably this mail will carry you the sad tidings in regard to Dr Bissell! We do not know how to spare him now, but hope that a change to America may prolong the precious life. In the mean time it is a matter of thankfulness that Mrs Bissell and her daughter can stay and look after a part of Dr Bissell's work.

Very Truly Yours Henry J. Bruce,

Satara, Jan. 2[illegible], 1886,
Rec'd Feb. 23.

Satara, India Jan. 27, 1886.

My Dear Dr. Clark.

I send you herewith the items which I have prepared for the Report, in reference to the Satara District. It has been a year of special interest with us, in many ways, and the number of persons received to the Satara church, is greater than that of any previous year. Our helpers generally, are, I think, in good working condition, and a great deal of honest, earnest work is being done. I have given in my report most of the facts which I intended to write to you.

I return the statistical form which you sent me, filled out as best I can. At best it can be only an approximation. I have made my calculations on the basis of state of my field at the end of the year. In some places I have had men only for a month or two, but have reckoned their salaries for the year.

I have just given up one of my best men to go to Sholapur. The brethren there were disappointed in not being able to secure a suitable man for a most promising opening, and in view of Bro.

Gates going to America. I have sent this man to them, either as a gift or a loan, I do not know which. Our forces here are therefore so much the weaker. But it is not by many or by few, that God can carry on his work, but by the power of his own Spirit.

I am sending you by this mail a copy of my first paper on the "Natural History of the Marathi Bible," covering the subject of Birds. The remaining two papers, on "Reptiles," and "Mammals" will be published (D.V.) in the April and July Nos. of the Indian Evangelical Review. These papers have been prepared in the interests of Bible revision, and the Indian Witness says of the first one, that it will be of permanent value in the revision of the Bible in the Indian vernaculars.

Rec'd Mar. 2.

I was intending to notice some things in your recent letters to the Mission, but I am too weary to take up the subject now. You also, I fear, will be weary before you have finished reading my long Report.

Very Truly Yours.

Henry J. Bruce,

Jan 28. Statistics rec'd this morning enable me to give some of the totals.
No rec'd on profession in 1885 - - - - 171
Net gain in No. of Communicants - - - 125
Total No of communicants end of 1885: 1718.
The number received has been exceeded only once, in 1880, when the number was 172.

Panchgani, India, May 20, 1886

My Dear Dr Clark,

Recent letters from our son Henry, now in Harvard College, have intimated to me very plainly, that his health is not likely to allow him to go on very much longer in his present course of study. I have felt anxious about his health ever since he returned to Harvard, after his breakdown last year. His later letters have made me feel very strongly that he must have a more decided change than it would be possible for him to get in America. The American climate has not dealt tenderly with him, and almost every letter has expressed an earnest longing for sunny India, the land of his birth. I have never before given him the remotest hint that there was any possibility of his coming to India before his studies were completed, but I am now so impressed with the *necessity* in the case, that I am writing him by this mail proposing a plan by which he may come to us at once. I have talked the matter over fully and freely with Mr Smith of Ahmednagar, and he seems to think that Henry could be very useful in the High School, and the proposed College Class, and he seems quite enthusiastic about it. Henry has special qualifications in the department of Eng. Literature & History, just where it is difficult to secure good teaching in this country. Although nominally a Sophomore in Harvard he has been in the advanced English Class. In this class he and one Carpenter (a Senior I believe,) have led the class, each receiving last term a mark of 97. which is said to be the highest mark ever given in that department by the present teacher, Prof Wendell.

I enclose a letter from Mr Smith which will show you what he thinks of the plan.

I do not propose that Henry shall come out under appointment by the Board, or that he shall have any status under the Board. I have urged his coming solely on the ground of his health. I dare not risk the consequences of another two (or four) years study in the New England climate. Nor do I propose this as a permanent arrangement. I have expressly intimated to Henry that if his health is confirmed by the change to India and if it seems best all around, he may return to America and complete his studies *after two years*. In the mean time Mr Smith can employ him just as he employs his native teachers, making him a small allowance to cover board &c, from the funds of the School. If he makes himself useful in the School and does satisfactory work his *status* in the Mission, and with the Board can be determined afterward, as you yourself suggested to Dr. Bissell in regard to his daughter Emily.

I do not know how my proposition will appear to Henry. He may not wish to avail himself of it. Both Mrs Bruce and I, however, think that he will do so. I have therefore arranged for him to receive from our private funds, $400. to cover passage, & other necessary expenses. I do not urge the matter of the Board sharing this expense with me, but if, under the circumstances, the Prudential Committee are willing to pay one half of this amount, I should be very glad to receive it.

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce

Tauchgaue, May 20, 1880,

Rec'd June 21.

P. C., Son.

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Panchgani May 31 1886.

My Dear Dr Clark,

I send you the enclosed paper which I have prepared. I think it would be well to have this correction published in the Missionary Herald. But if you think otherwise perhaps you can hand it to the Congregationalist. Dr Mackichan of Bombay called my attention to the passage, and I read it to the Mission at our recent meeting. The opinion was expressed by the brethren that I had better write the statements which I there made by way of correction, and send them to you.

With kind regards

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

Panchgani, May 31, 1886,

Rec'd July 3.

✓

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Dr Smith's Life of Dr Carey.

A Correction.

By Rev H. J. Bruce, Satara, India.

In the Missionary Herald for April there is a very commendatory notice of ~~of~~ Dr Smith's Life of Dr. William Carey. I would not wish to say anything to depreciate the value of this work as a whole, but, my attention has been called to one passage which would certainly convey a very wrong and unjust impression in regard to the early Missionaries of the American Marathi Mission. On page 259 Dr Smith says: -

> "But the new comers, (the American Missionaries in Bombay,) who found the way prepared for them by Carey's toils of twenty years, showed a tendency to ignore and then cast contempt on what Serampore had done for Maharashtra, and its varied peoples. The second edition of Carey's Marathi New Testament appeared in 1825, and formed the object of criticisms which brought that accomplished scholar William Greenfield to the rescue. In a defence he exposed the ignorance and error of the objections. Even so late as 1829, immediately after his arrival in Bombay, the Scottish John Wilson had publicly to remind the American Missionaries that Carey had published his Marathi Grammar and Dictionary at Serampore in 1810, three years before their predecessors were allowed to land, and had admitted several Marathas to Church communion."

The first Missionaries of the Marathi Mission, (Messrs Hall and Nott arrived in 1813, and Mr Newell in 1814) were ready to welcome every aid in the arduous work which they had undertaken. They tried to use the Serampore version of the New Testament, They

May 31, 1886,

however found it printed in a character which was not easily intelligible to the Marathi people, and they therefore had portions of it written out in the Balbodh character so that it could be used. Rev Allen Graves arrived in India in 1818, and he afterwards became one of the most prominent of the translators of the Marathi Bible. Under date of Nov. 4. 1831, he addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Bombay Bible Society, from which I take the following sentences. He says:—

> "The first members of our Mission commenced their labors with the most profound respect for Dr. Carey. And as they had a part of his Marathi translation, I presume they had no more thought of changing it than of changing our English version. They made use of it, and had some books written out in the Balbodh character. But as they became familiar with it, and with the Marathi language, they began to see errors which they could not avoid correcting. This may have led to the supposition, that they made his, the basis of their own translation. This may have been the case in their first books, which were a Harmony of the Gospels, Scripture Extracts, and Matthew's Gospel. But they were very soon unable to satisfy their consciences without taking the Bible which they taught, directly from the original languages."

When they had been fifteen years or more in the country the American Missionaries published a review of their work in which the following passage occurs. Referring to the time of their arrival they say:—

> "There was not anything in the shape of a book among the natives which could give them the least idea of the true character of God, as revealed in the sacred Scriptures. Every thing was to be done. The wilderness was before them and not a tree in this forest had yet been felled."

is an intelligent man, and has been our Mission Pundit for more than twenty years. Without giving him any explanation I handed him the page and asked him what language it was. He said that the character contained "some Balbodh" and "some Modi," and a good deal that was "mixed". Some of the words were Marathi, but a good many of them were not. He thought it might be some language of the other side of India, but he said emphatically that it was not Marathi. He was asked whether a Maratha man could take the book and make anything out of it, and he said, decidedly, "No!" And this is the version which our first Missionaries are accused of "showing a tendency to ignore, and then casting contempt upon"!

Satara May 31, 1886.

Rec'd July 3, 1886.

Herard ?

consult Dr Clark

This was the occasion of Dr Wilson's address which is referred to by Dr Smith. Whatever Dr Wilson may have thought, and said, "immediately after his arrival in Bombay," it is certain that a longer residence in India, and a further acquaintance with the Marathi language and literature, led him to change his mind. At the Jubilee meeting of the Bombay Bible Society in 1853, Dr Wilson presented a paper giving a history of the Marathi Bible. He quotes from the Calcutta Christian Observer a somewhat lengthy account of Dr Carey's Marathi version, and mentions some cases of conversion which resulted from reading that version. In the middle of the quotation, however, Dr Wilson throws in an explanation as follows:—

> "It may here be mentioned that the Marathi translation prepared at Serampore, was in a dialect peculiar to a district in the Province of Nagpur, and was not generally approved of in the Marathi country."

And then, again, at the end of this same quotation Dr. Wilson says:—

> "The Serampore version of the Marathi New Testament now referred to, was not used by the Bombay Bible Society. It was found to be in a local dialectic form of the language, greatly corrupted, and probably limited to some district of the Province of Nagpur with which the instances of its utility, it would appear, were associated. It is not, certainly in the language generally spoken in Maharashtra."

This is very emphatic testimony from one who is an acknowledged authority.

Rec'd July 3, 1886.

There is a second reference to the Serampore version of the Marathi Bible, in Dr. Smith's Life of Dr Carey. It is in the Appendix, under the heading, "Latest justification of Carey's Pioneer Work." After quoting from the Report of the British and Foreign Bible Society for 1885, a statement that Dr Carey's Kōnkani version has recently been revised and published, Dr Smith says:—

> "Renewed revisions of the versions of the Bible in Marathi, Guzarati, Pushtu, Persian, Telugu Santali, Ooriya, Hindi and Bengalli, are still being made by the ablest Missionary scholars, native and European, on the spot. Among the native revisers is that accomplished minister of the Free Church of Scotland, and Marathi Scholar, the Rev Baba Padmanji."

Taken in its connection this must mean that these revisions are all made on the basis of Dr Carey's versions. This is a mistake. Whatever may be true in regard to the other revisions, that of the Marathi is in no sense based upon the Serampore version. The Rev Baba Padmanji has for several years been engaged in the revision, and in superintending the printing of the Marathi Bible, but the basis of the present Marathi New Testament, is that which was originally prepared by the American Missionaries.

In order to test the question of the intelligibility of the Serampore version of the Marathi New Testament, I have shown a photo-lithographic copy of a page of it to a Brahman Pundit. He

H J Bruce - Marathi

Criticism -

Dr Smith's Carey

1886

Satara, India. Aug 23d. 1886.

My Dear Dr. Clark.

I thank you for your two kind letters in regard to my son. He has informed us of his decision not to come to India at present, and given us assurances in regard to his health, from Prof. Lanman and others, which are very gratifying. Some time ago his physician in Cambridge said to him, "If you were my son, I should take you out of College instanter." During the Winter and Spring his health was such that, added to the fact of his break down last year, it naturally made us feel very anxious about him. I am glad to say now, however, that there is a fair prospect that he will be able to finish his course. We hear of him now, during his vacation, as being in Vermont near Lake Memphramagog, where he is getting twelve hours of sleep a day. This will do him more good than any amount of medicines.

I sent you some weeks ago two copies of my "Natural History of the Marathi Bible". I now send you, enclosed, a copy of some notices that have been given to it by the Press.

I also enclose a copy of a Memorandum

of Mrs. Bruce's, and my own, publications. It may sometime be useful for reference.

With kind regards I am,

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce

P. S. Referring to my letter of May 20th concerning Iron Roofs at Mahableshwar I would say that if it is possible to give an early reply it would be greatly to our convenience. Either the iron roofs or the new Thatches must be ready before the next hot season, (March,) and in order to have the iron roofs built the contract must be made in Oct. or Nov.

H. J. B.

Satara, Aug. 23 '86.
Rec'd Sept 27.

Satara, India Nov. 8, 1886.

My Dear Dr Clark.

We have just returned from the Annual Meeting at Ahmednagar, I took my family this time as Mrs Bruce has not been to the Meetings before for five years. On our return I found your letter giving us the Rs. 2000 for the Iron Roofs at Mahableshwar. We are very glad to receive this, and I shall try to spend it as economically as possible. I am planning to start for Mahableshwar to-morrow morning to get the work under way as quickly as possible.

I am sure you will be glad to know that Mr and Mrs Sibley are coming to Satara to live, and are to take charge of the Bhoring District from the first of January. We have been a long time here alone, and at times during the last rains it has seemed as if we could not hold out any longer. Once or twice I have been on the point of writing to you for permission to go home, but thought to delay it as long as possible. I think

23 '86.

the trip to Nagar has done us both good and we have now no expectation of asking to go home at present. It is eleven years the 16th of last month since we arrived in Bombay the second time.

We have had difficulties about the "Water Question" here at Satara, which have been exceedingly trying. You will see full accounts of the trouble in our time. Being here alone, and having to fight the battle single handed, it has taken a great deal of vital energy out of me, and has been a principal cause of my poor health during the last part of the season. The matter has now to go to the Governor as soon as I can prepare the papers to send to him. I saw the Governor in Sept. and talked the whole matter over with him. He was able to grasp the subject at once and comprehend its importance, although he never heard of it before. He is very sympathetic and a good Christian man. He said he could see how important it is to our Mission work to have the question rightly settled, and he told me to send the case directly to him, through his Private Secretary.

Excuse this hasty, gossipy, letter and believe me Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce

Satara, Nov. 5, '86.
Rec'd Dec. 13.

Allowances and
Satara,

	Charged in June Acct.	Charged in Dec Acct.	Total for the Year	Allowe for 1886
I Allowances Gold.	479 6 4 1410 0 0	535 12 9 1410 0 0	1015-3-1 2820-0 0	1015-3 2820-0
II Native Agency	925-10-0	985-0-0	1910-10-0	* −198- 1960-
III Education	729-7-9	889-6-9	1618-14-6	1634-
IV Buildings	509-8-6	347-15-9	857-8-3	884-0
V Tours & Travelling	135-6-0	203-4-0	338-10-0	385-0
VI Printing &c	219-5-0	23-15-0	243-4-0	235-0
VII Medicines & Med. Attend.	8-4-0	18-4-0	26-8-0	100-0
VIII Incidentals.	18-7-6	13-5-0	31-12-6	40 0

d Expenditures
ra, 1886.

llowed for 886.	Saved or Lost.	Notes.
15-3-1 20-0-0	— — — 0 0 0	
# 98-0-0 60-0 0	-198 0 0 49-6-0	# Bapuji Namaji transferred to Sholapur with Allowances (16+2) for 11 months. Dhondiba's salary was not in estimates for 1886. This would be (15+1)×12 = 192.
34-0-0	15-1-6	
4-0-0	26-7-9	
5-0-0	46-6-0	
5-0-0	-8-4-0	
0-0-0	73-8-0	
0 0 0	8 3 6	
	+219 0-9 -206-4-0 Rs 12-12-9	Total expenditures within total estimates by Rs. 12-12-9.

Henry J Bruce

Satara, Jan. 7. 1887.

Satara India Feb 1. 1887.

My Dear Dr Clark,

Your circular letter dated Dec 27, 1886, was received last evening. I certainly am very glad to welcome you back to your place at the Missionary Rooms. Your long absence "of ten and a half weeks" must have been peculiarly trying to you, for reasons quite apart from the physical suffering which you were called to endure. But there is One that knows best, and to Him be all praise.

I must make my annual letter very brief this time. I am busily engaged upon the Annual Report of the Mission, and as the items which I have prepared for the Report will reach you in printed form in due time, it is not necessary that I should copy them now. I wish instead to send you a copy of my Balance-sheet for 1886. Perhaps this may be a curiosity to you, and I am sure it will give you some intimation of the care which some of us at least, exercise to keep our expenses within the limit of our appropriations. Our estimates were made in May 1885, some of them more than a year and a half before the expenditure, and yet, as you will see, in a total of 9000 rupees, the expenditures come within Rs 12-12-9 of the ~~total~~ appropriations. The privilege of transferring the savings in one department to help eke out the allowances for another department, is of great value to us. Owing to peculiar circumstances I overran under "Native Agency," but was able to meet it from the little savings in several other departments.

There is very little that need be said in the way of a health report. I wrote you on this subject in November last. Neither Mrs Bruce nor I are very strong, but we hope to be able to stay on for another year. For various reasons I have very little hope that we shall be able to exceed that limit, although we know not, of course, what Providence may have in store for us.

It is a great pleasure to us to have Mr. and Mrs. Sibley here at Satara. Mr. S. has relieved me of the care of the Bhoing District, and I have no doubt they will accomplish a good work.

With kind regards from Mrs Bruce as well as from myself, I remain

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce.

Satara, Feb. 1, '87
Rec'd Mar. 8

Panchgani India, May 20 1887.

My Dear Dr. Clark.

You will find in the contingent estimates of the Mission for 1887 an item of Rs 1750, for putting on iron roofs upon the stables of Green Hill Bungalow, and the Cookroom and Guard's house of Grace Cottage, at Mahableshwar. The Mission while fully approving of the item wished me to write to you and explain the necessity. With the exception of these buildings and the ~~Mali~~ Guards house at Green Hill, all our buildings at Mahableshwar were iron-roofed several years. These buildings were left because at that time the funds of the Board were so low that it was difficult to obtain sufficient for the regular working expenses of the Mission. The buildings named have ~~been~~ kept up by putting on thatches once in two years, at an expense of about Rs 250. each time. The new thatches will have to be built after the coming rains unless they are replaced by iron. Rs 250 are placed in the regular estimates for this purpose and this will be required in any case, either for the renewed thatches, or to be added to the Rs 1750 (making Rs 2000) for the iron roofs, if that expenditure is sanctioned by the Committee.

Having had the care of the Mahableshwar Houses for several years I would say that these thatches have caused me more trouble than all the other houses put together. It is becoming more and more difficult every year to get good thatches put on, so that now they will scarcely last through two rainy seasons. The trouble and expense of keeping them up, are so great that it would be a positive relief to have the buildings put into permanent shape. But the mission refers to the Prudential Committee the question whether in the coming year the thatches shall be renewed at an expense of Rs 250, or the buildings shall be iron roofed at an expense of Rs 2000.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

Panchgani, May 20, 1887,

Rec'd June 21, /86.

Mission report

P.C.

Contingent

1887

Satara India Aug. 12, 1887

My Dear Dr. Clark.

I think the time has now come when I must write to you to ask for permission to return, on visit, to America early next year. I have delayed doing so as long as possible, with any hope of getting a reply before the October Meeting, because neither Mrs Bruce nor myself have any desire to leave our work and go to America, apart from the necessity that seems to be laid upon us. Mrs B. has been very poorly for the last six or eight months, so that she has only been able to do very much less than her usual amount of work. It does not seem to me that there is very much hope of our being able to get in this country any change which would bring her and myself up to our former working condition. I think, therefore, that the most economical course for us is to go to America, and I hope that by so doing we may be able to return in due time with renewed strength for our work.

If we are permitted to remain here until next March, it will be 12½ years since our second arrival in Bombay, and just *25 years* since our first arrival, (Mar 3 1863.) We are thankful to have had so long a term of service, with only one visit to America,

I might mention other reasons why it seems best for us to go next year, but as the one mentioned above seems *imperative*, I need not add any others. We are thankful that Mr & Mrs Sibley are here at Satara to look after the work during our absence. There has been no time before when it seemed possible for us to leave. But we feel that Mr. & Mrs. Sibley will look after the interests of the work here as well as any whom we could name. They manifest a deep interest in everything that pertains to the welfare of the cause in Satara.

I desire, therefore, to ask of the Prudential Committee, permission to return to America with my family, in the early part of 1888, of course with the approval of the Mission at the time.

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce

Satara, Aug. 12-1887
Rec'd Sept. 17
P.C.

Satara Jan 11. 1888.

My Dear Dr Clark.

Your letter with two copies of blanks for statistics came this morning. I have filled the blanks as well as I am able. The figures must be regarded as only approximately correct.

2. We have not quite closed the arrangement with the Steamship Company, but we expect now to sail from Bombay for Liverpool on the first day of March, in the Anchor Line Steamer "Arabia". Should any change of plan be made I will report it in due time. We are expecting to stay three weeks or so in England. My address in England will be Care of Bywater Tanqueray & Co. 79 Queen Victoria Street, London.

3 As the Mission has given me the work of making up the Mission Report in addition to my work of preparation for going, and as I have a Marathi book going through the press at the same time, I am very busy these days. I will not therefore write more now except to say that so far as the statistics appear at this writing the number of persons received

to the church on profession of faith in 1887 was 157. This number has been exceeded only four times in the history of the Mission. Moreover 59 adults were baptized but not received to the communion of any church. This makes 216, which exceeds by 30 the largest number ever received before in any one year.

With kind regards I am.

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce

Satara Jan 11/88

Bombay, India, Feb. 1, 1888.

My Dear Dr Clark.

There is one matter in regard to which I wish to write you, hoping to receive your reply on my arrival in England.

We are desirous of spending about three weeks or so in England on our way home. I think the advantages would be very many, and in various directions. I wish to ask whether I may be allowed to charge expenses for board to the Mission. Our travelling expenses in England except so far as connected with our regular journey homeward, I shall regard as private. but it has seemed to me that expenses for board might be a proper Mission charge, since if we should go directly to America, (and give up all the advantages of a short stay in England,) it would cost the Board nearly as much for our living there.

Kindly send your reply to Care Bywater Tanqueray & Co 79 Queen Victoria Street, London,

I am here in Bombay for a few days in order to push the Mission Report through the Press. The Mission wishes me to get the Report out before I go. We now expect to sail Mar. 3. which will be the 25th anniversary of our first arrival in India. (Mar, 3, 1863)

Very Truly Yours

Henry J. Bruce.

Bombay, Feb. 1, 1888,
Rec'd Mar. 5.

A.C.

42 Finsbury Park Road
London April 10 1888.

My Dear Dr Clark.

You will be glad to know that the first part of our long journey has been safely accomplished, and we are settled here for about three weeks stay. We landed in Liverpool April 2nd. The first part of our voyage was quite smooth, but the last part was very rough. The great "blizzard" that passed over New York must have met us as we left Gibraltar, though it had spent most of its force.

We have engaged passage from Liverpool to New York by the "*City of Rome*" which is to sail May 2nd.

We are finding it very *cold* here in London and are longing for a little warmer weather.

With kind regards from Mrs Bruce & myself I remain

Very Truly Yours,

H. J. Bruce

London, Apr. 10, 1888.

Rec'd Apr. 23.

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Worcester Mass
✓ July 27 1888

My Dear Dr Clark.

There were so many
ings to say yesterday that I
rgot to ask one question which
wished to ask. You spoke
Mr McCullough going on the Steam
of Aug 25th or Sept 8th Will he
ail from Boston & by the Cunard
ine? Henry has spoken of going
one of those dates by the
nard Line.

But my principal question
this. Does the Board get
y discount upon rate of
assage by the Cunard Line?
f so could I avail myself of
in case of my son Henry?

Very Truly Yours
H. J. Bruce

Worcester, Aug. 18, '88.

Rec'd Aug. 20.

Aug 18 1888

My Dear Dr Clark.

Your letter of the 16th is at hand, with the letter from Mr Woodbridge

I do not think that I can in any way avail myself of the kind offer of Mr W. My arrangements are made for the year. up to July 1 1889. and what will be after that I cannot tell.

I return the letter as requested.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

We are getting much better news from Mr Sibley.

228 West Street, Worcester Mass. Aug 14 1888.

My Dear Dr. Clark

I failed to see Dr Fairbank last week, and consequently could not talk over Bombay matters with him. I had, however, a little talk with Mrs Capron, which was a help to me in developing ideas about the Bombay school. I need not stop to discuss the following propositions, but will state them as briefly as possible.

1. I do not approve of purchasing the premises proposed by the Bombay Brethren for the following reasons.
   (a) They are very costly. — (b). They only partially meet the wants of the Bombay Station, as no provision is made for the new chapel. — (c) The purchase would imply a pledge to increase, and continue, the Bombay work in the line of the present scale of heavy expenditure.

2. The Bombay school, as at present conducted is almost solely for the benefit of Christian children. It is not therefore directly an active, aggressive agency for evangelizing the heathen, but a large "bounty" bestowed upon the Christian community. It is easy to see that the giving of

aid to the Christians on so large a scale will defer indefinitely the time when the Christian community will be able to support all of its own institutions.

3. There are plenty of schools of high grade in Bombay, both missionary and Government, where our Christian young men may obtain their advanced education.

4. I would therefore abolish what is called the "Boys' Boarding School," or at least all that portion of it which is beyond the fifth vernacular standard, which is required for entrance into the C. V. E. S. Normal School at Ahmednagar. This would place this department of the School on an equality with all the other Station Schools in the Mission.

5. In case this were done the present Boys' Dormitory would be available for the girls, & the want which is so urgently presented, would be supplied.

6. I would change the character of the School so as to make it an aggressive agency among the non-christian population. Heathen girls should be received as well as Christians, and thus the influence of the School would

be felt in the heathen community.

7. Admission to the school should be strictly confined to Bombay or Konkan pupils, and those from other Mission districts should not be received without the full and cordial consent of the missionary in charge. This would save a great deal of friction and misunderstanding.

8. In case Christian young men living in Bombay and having advanced beyond the fifth standard, should wish to attend the school (without cost to the Mission,) they might be allowed to do so on payment of the usual fees.

9. For the present accommodation of the young ladies in Bombay I should suppose that a moderate sized house might be rented.

10 It would seem to be the part of wisdom that financial matters in Bombay should be under the control of the Mission, precisely as they are in every other station of the Mission. I am sure that in this way more satisfactory results can be finally reached, than if Bombay were made a separate Mission, responsible only, and directly, to the Prudential Committee.

I do not suppose that the above scheme

would be satisfactory to our friends in Bombay, but it seems to me that it would commend itself, (perhaps with some modifications,) to most of the other members of the Mission. I have embodied these suggestions in this form at your request, and present them for your consideration.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

P. S. Two more thoughts suggest themselves. 1. Should there be any boys in the lower grades ~~that~~ who would need to be boarded, the house now used for the girls, would probably be sufficient for their accommodation.

2. It is possible that the presence of the larger boys in the school would interfere with the attendance of heathen girls; If so the boys department might be more restricted, or entirely separated. The aim of the School should be largely to reach the heathen community.

Bombay
Keller
No.

Rec'd Aug 21 '88

Nov 12, 1888.

Mr. Bruce

My Dear Dr Clark.

We have just rec'd a letter from Mrs Bissell which contains a good deal of information. I think you would be glad to see it, and I will enclose a part of it for your perusal, Kindly return after reading.

I presume Dr Bissell has written you of the telegram received from the Governor of Bombay, asking if the Mission would provide superintendence for 120 African slaves just captured and landed at Aden. The brethren in Nagar after a hurried consultation replied that they would take all the boys & girls under 20 years of age, at Government expense. Dr Bissell says

228 West Street Worcester Mass

as India, on our hands."

With kind regards

Very truly yours

H. J. Bruce

thirty rupee man could have taught just about as well, But they seem to have got him into his legitimate work now,

I have no doubt that other Missions would gladly take up Sumantrow if our Mission did not employ him, He is a very valuable man and I hope you will be able to provide for his salary, and that he will be kept in the *evangelistic* work, not in the *educational*.

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

228 West Street Worcester Mass
Dec 13 1888.

Rev. H. J. Bruce.

My Dear Dr Clark.

Your letter received this morning.

Rec'd Dec. 15

Sumantraw is the son of Pastor Vishnupunt who died some years ago in Bombay. Until some months ago he was engaged in the printing business in Bombay being the proprietor (or one of the proprietors) of the Anglo Vernacular Press. As an illustration of his character about two or three years ago he sold off all his Arabic type because he was often asked to print immoral books in that language, and he would have nothing to do with it.

For several years he has been more or less engaged in evangelistic work in add

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[illegible] work, and a year ago he determined to give up his printing business entirely and devote himself to evangelistic work if any opportunity should be offered him.

He is a man of deep spiritual experience having been somewhat affected by "Holiness" views, but not offensively so. He is a fine speaker & preacher, and has lately been going to the different districts of our Mission & preaching as an evangelist. At Belapur in Dr Ballantine's district he went with Dr B. a few weeks ago, and several persons were baptized as the result of their labors. Afterwards he went to Sirur to work with Mr Winsor, but I have not heard of the results. He was to go to Satara in December

that we are thinking that there may be there now.
I cannot tell just how far he continued his studies. I do not know of any other available man who is at all his equal for this particular work. I do not think therefore that ~~the~~ other men *ought* to be made dissatisfied with their salaries because of this large salary, I suppose it is Rs 85 salary & Rs 10 for rent. Anandrow the Editor I believe has Rs 75 & rent.

Sumantrow is the man I spoke to you about some time ago, who was employed by the Mission in May, as an evangelist and then was kept by Mr E. S. Hume in Bombay to teach a little English School, which a

228 West Street Worcester Apr 10 1889.

My Dear Dr Clark

In reply to your letter of Apr 3, (?) received last night, I beg to make the following statements.

1. Should my daughter Hattie go with us to India she wishes it definitely understood that she will be willing to occupy the position and do the work where _the Mission_ is of opinion that she can render the **most** useful service.

2. Our _first_ idea was that Hattie would be with us at Satara, and that she would work in connection with Mrs. Sibley; But when it was intimated that Miss Julia Bissell wished to return next year, and was wishing to find some one to take her place in the Girls' School at Ahmednagar, Hattie expressed a decided preference to take up that school work for at least a year or two, thinking that that would fit her for better service at Satara,

3. We have supposed that Mrs Sibley would stay right on at Satara, for the present, until possibly, by and by, the way might be opened for her going to _Wai_ to live if she should

choose to do so. We have obtained ground at Wai for building a Mission House, but at ~~at~~ present there is no place for her to live in at Wai except temporarily and occasionally at the Traveller's Bungalow.

4. Without knowing just what Mrs Sibley's idea is, I would say that *our* idea is that, *not* a young lady only, is wanted for the Wai field, but a young *married* couple is *urgently needed* for the development of the work in that district. My *plea* is, as I have told you in conversation, that a young *missionary family* should at once be sent out to take up the work which Bro. Sibley entered upon with so much enthusiasm, at the beginning of last year. Such a family would need to reside at Satara for a year or so, while learning the language, and in the meantime the bungalow at Wai could be erected. As soon as the house is ready this family could go, with Mrs Sibley's company and help, at once to live at Wai.

5. With reference to your question whether my "daughter would live with Mrs Sibley at Wai," I would say that I should hesitate, and I believe the Mission would hesitate, to sanction any two ladies living by themselves in such a bigoted

Brahmanical, and turbulent city as Wai. A man of strong character, but with kind and conciliatory ways, will, I believe, be essential to the best development of the work there. Then the two ladies could find abundant work there, and they could carry it on with comparative safety.

6. In the mean time, while the plan above suggested is developing, we have intimated to Mrs. Sibley that we should be pleased to have her live with us in Satara.

7. Should it seem best to the Mission to appoint Hattie to work with Mrs Sibley at Satara, we feel confident that they would be congenial companions for each other, and that they would work well together.

8. This suggests a subject that I once proposed to you in conversation, viz. that for the accommodation of Mrs. Sibley, and for Hattie, either permanently or during her vacations if she is at Nagar, there would need to be an additional room built upon the Satara Mission house. As my printing office occupies a small side room it leaves only two sleeping rooms in the house. If, for the present, the nursery is given to Mrs Sibley, the children must be put in the corners here and there. For a tem

porary expedient this arrangement might do very well, but it would hardly be convenient to make it permanent. I have not laid this plan before the Mission, for approval, because I have been waiting for the development of events. But it seems to me now that it is time to suggest the matter for their consideration.

9. I do not know what Mrs Sibley has written in regard to sending a lady to her help, so that what I may say here will be open to correction on further information. But it seems to me that if she can be provided with a companion for the next nine or ten months it would leave the way open for the development of the plans above suggested. If the Lord will we hope to return to India in the coming Autumn. With three young ladies in Bombay it does seem to me that one of them could be spared for the emergency. I think that this is due to Mrs Sibley, and to the work at Satara.

With kind regards I remain
Very Truly Yours
H. J. Bruce.

P. S. I am expecting to go with Dr Creegan on Saturday to Rhode Island. If you should wish to talk over any of the above points I will go to Boston Saturday morning, and then go with Dr Creegan from there. Kindly inform me if you wish me to go to Boston.

Bruce Apr. 10 1887

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228 West Street Worcester Apr 26/89.

My Dear Dr Clark.

In reply to your letter of yesterday let me say that I do not know what Mrs Sibley has written, or what her plans are, but my own thoughts on the subject are definite, and are briefly as follows:—

1. I do not think it would be best to send out a single lady to Satara at present. There are several things that seem to me to be more important ~~than~~ that. On the supposition that we shall be able to return to Satara in the Autumn the sending of a single lady would necessitate the hiring of another house at Satara, as neither Mrs Bruce nor I feel that we could give a home to two single ladies, besides our own daughter Hattie, who, even if she is in the school at Ahmednagar, will of course be with us during her vacations.

2. I cannot too strongly urge the importance of sending a young married couple to Satara, who will be engaged in the study of the language for a time, and eventually go to Wai to live. In Satara they would necessarily occupy a hired house.

3. In the mean time, while this young couple remain in Satara, a bungalow could be erected at Wai. on the completion of which they with Mrs Sibley, could go there to live.

4. After getting established in Wai Mrs Sibley might like another lady associate, and it would be time *then* to send her out there.

5. I have already, two weeks ago, written to Dr Bissell the Sec. of the Mission, about the additional room at Satara, giving plans &c.

6. It seems to me that the natural order of things, so far as *human* foresight can arrange, would be as follows. (1) Send out the young married couple as soon as possible and let them go to Satara and commence the study of the language. (2) We are hoping (*D.V.*) to return to Satara at the end of this year. (3.) Building the additional room at Satara, plans for which I have already laid before the Mission. (4) Building the Bungalow and outhouses at Wai. to be occupied when completed by the new family and Mrs Sibley. (5) *Then*, if Mrs Sibley desires it, give her a lady associate to work with her at Wai.

Very Truly Yours H. J. Bruce.

D. J. Bruce Nebraska

ap. 26 1887

Va claim for Salaries

July 26 1889
Rec^d " 27 "

My Dear Dr Alden. ans^d do.

I am expecting to attend Mr Moody's Meetings at Northfield, commencing Aug 1st. I write to ask whether I may feel encouraged to try to find a young married couple to go out with us to Saturn, and eventually to Wai.

There seems to be a very prevalent feeling that the Missionary Boards have no funds to send out new Missionaries, and if there is any difficulty of

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of that kind I certainly would not wish to present my wants at Northfield.

Of course all qualifications must be decided by the Prudential Committee but what I wish to know is, whether, if I can find ~~a~~ *suitable* couple who are willing to go, I may hold out the hope that the Board will send them out with us in October?

Very Truly Yours

H. J. Bruce

Bombay, India, Dec. 13, 1889.

My Dear Dr: Clark

Just a line this morning to inform you of our safe arrival in Bombay. We landed early this morning We are all well and have had a very delightful voyage. We had a few rough days when old Neptune made demands upon some of the party for "internal revenue", but on the whole our daughter Hattie thinks it was the pleasantest voyage of the ten voyages she has taken.

Mrs Hagen is well and we have delivered over charge of her to her husband who was here in waiting

I cannot write more now, but hope to do so by and by, when we have had a chance to look about us at Satara.

With kind regards
Very Truly Yours
H. J. Bruce

A. J. Bruce

Dec. 13. 1889

Bunhay.

✓

Condict Miss Alice B., M. D.

She knew me as Physician in charge of a Medical Mission in Connection with Mr Moody's Church in Chicago -

Sir I am yours truly -

Alice B. Condict

To
Dr Clark - Sec F. M. American
Board - Boston Mass -
America -

Miss Alice B. Condict, M.D.,
Mahableshwar India
May 24. 1886.

Rec'd July 3.

To
Dr Clark -
Secretary of Foreign Missions
of A. B. F. M. of America -

My Dear Sir

I am requested to copy for your use a part of a letter I am sending my brother Rev Walter Condict of S. Hampton Long Island America - who has already had some correspondence with you concerning me, & my desire to join my self with the missionaries of the American Marathi Mission of Bombay India - with a view of carrying on a medical mission work in Bombay -

Having already gained something of a practice that has enabled me to be self supporting so far - beside the charity patients I have had the pleasure of serving - (about 1/3 of all the practice which has engaged me is free to the very poor) I still desire to continue as far as possible to be no burden to any one - & in that way ~~to~~ continue my practice - among Natives of both the rich & very poor -

I now ask 3 things of the Christians at home - that I may give more freely my services - & that I may have an assistant to follow up my patients to their homes for more perfect teaching of the Bible & when possible to do some nursing -

I write my brother to present my case - thus -

1st ask for house rent for me & my assistant - One medium sized house will give us a residence & rooms for a dyspen sary-

2nd " About 80 Rupees per month for assistant-

3rd ". Out fit-Money- as no one has thus far been burdened in sending me- + no money given except by my own personal friends-

I will use that to properly fit up a home- that I may at once have a place to invite my patients to see me in- + possibly some of it I could use to get a better supply of medicines than I now have-

Hoping this will clearly set before You what is desired in my Case- + that You may be able to grant it I close-

I will refer You to Mrs W. A. Montgomery of Chicago Ills- who has recently taken the Presidency of one of your important Western divisions of The womans branch of The American Board-

Alice B. Condict, M.D. s

Bombay Oct 1, 1886.

Rec'd Nov. 1.

650 R.

Bombay Oct 1st 1886.
+ Grant Road

Rev Dr N. G. Clark -

My Dear Sir -

Your kind letter was received a short time since - and Rev Mr Charles Harding has forwarded to Miss Jennie James, and myself the first payments you desired us to receive. viz - 100 Rs for house rent - 80 Rs for Miss James and 500 - Rs for out fit money -

We are now getting our hou in order and hope in a few days to be ready more fully than ever to give our attention to native patients + any kind of religious teaching we find open to us thro our dispensary

work and house visiting -
God does most wonderfully give us the hearts of our patients - so that with Gods blessing we hope to be able to reach many native homes, but we can only move as the way is opened and people feel inclined to invite us to come to them - therefore we crave your prayers that we may our selves be true, and see our opportunities & make the best use of them -

The house we have taken is the same I have been boarding in ever since I came - so I am well known here now - We are preparing the lower part of the house for dispensary and hope soon to have one room with two or three beds for those we see we cannot properly treat in their homes.

It is a pleasant house in
in a very central positio
way - so patients can come
for a few pence from any
Hoping these arrangemen
Q - & that you will re
I am yours sincerely

Alic

To
The Rev Dr N. G. Cla
Boston Ma
U. S. A

in a small Compound-

tion it on a tram

me to us quite easily

ny part of the city:

ments you will approve

remember us in prayer.

ly

B. Condict

Clark -

ass.

A.

Bombay - India June 6th
1887.

Dr N. G. Clark

My Dear Sir

The English mail has just arrived and brings me yours of May 3rd I hasten to ans. as I have time now - and greatly desire to let you know all "The way The Dear Lord has been leading us" -

I am very sorry I did not write you before - but I have been over working - and was for two or more months almost laid aside - but in answer to my prayer God sent me a dear Christian sister - who has lately come from America to assist a Faith Mission in Berar - but as it grows too warm in Berar to stay on the plains, she came to Bombay and to me - instead of going to rest on the hills - She is a regular graduate (an M. D.) of America - Chicago - and we have divided our work & so I have been saved from a genuine break down - and am quite well again - Since Dr Leydia Wycoff came to us in

Bombay - India June 6th
1887.

Dr N. G. Clark

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I do not know as I have ever told you of the

Reformatory Hospital that has been opened by a
near English lady at her own expense - to save
fallen girls from leading a life of long wickedness &
misery - It is near me - & I have been put in
charge - since Jan 1st have had patients there to
attend - The work is growing rapidly & many
real Conversions, & hopes of better lives begun -
Jennie James my assistant has also been ill from
partial sun stroke & was obliged to go away to
the hills for about 2 1/2 months - She is better now
& would write her self but is busy nursing a very
sick Missionary just this time - Her time is
taken up with natives almost entirely - only now &
again being busy with Europeans - & then always
those who cannot afford to hire a nurse - She is
getting on very nicely with the language & is never so
happy as when I send her to native heathen families - She has been having two very interesting S. Schools
on Sabbath - One a Company of naked low cast
children who delight in her songs with them of
Jesus & her stories from the Bible - She has
succeeded in getting them to wash their bodies &
comb their hair before coming to her - so that she
has also given them an idea of cleanliness - but almost
every child is entirely naked - all are under
12 years of age. & from exceedingly poor families.
who cannot afford clothes for them - She is very

Anxious to open a day School for these children
& furnish enough muslin for each child a slight
covering- & we hope this will soon be accomplish
ed- as some money has unexpected come, that will
at least make a beginning for a couple of months.
~~Then~~ Miss James also goes to assist in a School
for boys who are in a Reformatory- Have been
put there for petty crimes- theft- quarreling &c. &c.
It is under Government- & the 230 boys had no religious
teaching till a few months ago a native christian
man began going to sing to them for one hour on Sabbath
I was called to attend one of the family of the man
who superintends the place & got interested in the
boys, & was promised the priviledge of coming to
see the boys every Sunday- So Miss James & I attended
every Sabbath- I was obliged to speak thro an
interpreter- The interest among the boys was intense
& we felt God so near us- The poor little thieves were
touched by our stories of The love of God- My little
niece in America sent me $2.00 out of her Christ
mas money- & said "Auntie you must buy some
thing very good for those little heathen children &
give to them for me". We got The gospel of Luke
in Marathi & Guzerati, & soon nearly every
boy was busy at work learning the Lords prayer

think of the good $2.00 can do! a whole school
of little thieves have the Gospel! These boys are
taught to do many kinds of work + the older ones
are taken by policemen to Factories to work where cotton
cloth is made - I often meet them on the street
as they are going + returning from their work -
+ am often quite over come by the hearty salute
they give me "Bahaut Salam Mem Sahib" -
They now sing the songs the native Christian man
has taught them - + they assure me they use the
Lord's prayer every night - I have not had a
chance to see them seperately much - but hope to soon.
God has most wonderfully provided for all our
personal needs - Miss James has the monthly sum
you so kindly send her - + my practice among
those able to pay has provided sufficient for me
+ our two or three guests we as a rule have
to entertain - Generaly these guests are missionaries
who have come from a distance - tired out - +
needing a rest and change -
In Feb - I had some reasons for feeling that perhaps
we had better not remain in this bungalow we
have used ever since I first came here - so we
made it a subject of prayer to be surely guided.
Just before this the Bungalow had been sold to
a Nawab of Hyderabad - He came in March to see the
place - + seemed pleased to find a lady Dr in the
place - Said he was going to England to see the
Jubelee + he would like to bring his wife down

to us for treatment - if we would let her come & occupy the lower part of the house - I consulted with The Hume's about the matter & we decided it would be well to accept the proposition - especially as The Nawab offered to give me my rent free while his wife remained - so I am now occupying the upper part of the house - & our Mohammedan friends the lower part - & we have no rent to pay for 3 or 4 months we are hampered as regards our ability to take in sick ones, as we did before - & our Minnature hospital has been given up for the time - but I hoped to have saved the 100 - R's a month - so as to be able to open a free Dyspensary we have wanted so long But I felt we had no right to the money if we did not use it for the purpose sent - so laid the matter before the Mission in its meeting at Mahableshwar - I could not go up there have not been able to go away for more than 8 days yet - But I hear by letter that the Mission felt they could not let us have the money for any other use but the one it was sent out for - as they were so pressed for money in other Stations - We are glad they can have it - & feel sure God will provide the money for our Dyspensary some other way if it is best to open it in a native part of the City -

to assist me is no doubt on her way by this time - My Dear old Father has been very ill the past few Months - & my sister who cared for him has been obliged to go West to live - so that some times lately it has seemed almost as if I must return home to care for my Father - but it would be a great trial to go - altho a pleasure to do so for his sake - I have written my friends to send for me in case I am really needed - God will guide that - If I do remain as I am hoping & longing to do - I shall be grateful to the A. B. C. F. M. if they can still continue to send us the allowances already provided - so that our large bills for drugs can more easily be met & we need not worry about rent - We paid 125 - Rupees per Month for this Bungalow - It would be hard to pay for the drugs we give away if we also had the whole 125 per month to pay for rent - Then too if any one felt moved to help us open the free Dispensary & the new expenses it will bring we would be very grateful - But we do not urge this on any one - Feeling so sure God will open hearts where He sees best & send to us all the circumstances we are best to assist me is no doubt on her way by this time - My Dear old Father has been very ill the past few Months - & my sister who cared for him has been obliged to go West to live - so that some times lately it has seemed almost as if I must return home to care for my Father - but it would be a great trial to go - altho a pleasure to do so for his sake - I have written my friends to send for me in case I am really needed - God will guide that - If I do remain as I am hoping & longing to do - I shall be grateful to the A. B. C. F. M. if they can still continue to send us the allowances already provided - so that our large bills for drugs can more easily be met & we need not worry about rent - We paid 125 - Rupees per Month for this Bungalow - It would be hard to pay for the drugs we give away if we also had the whole 125 per month to pay for rent - Then too if any one felt moved to help us open the free Dyspensary & the new expenses it will bring we would be very grateful - But we do not urge this on any one - Feeling so sure God will open hearts where He sees best & suit to us all the circumstances we are best fitted to bear. What He has done in the past is but a glympse of what He is able to accomplish in the future.

Please excuse this long Epistle. Perhaps you may be glad you have not heard from me oftener after such an affliction as this!

With many thanks for the kind interest expressed in your letter I close. We often times feel weary, & long for more human sympathy.

Yours faithfully in my small
way for our Master.

Alice B. Condict

Bombay June, 6, '87.

Rec'd July 11.

←

Bombay India August 23. 188

Dr N. G. Clark.

My Dear Sir.

I am glad to acknowledge the receipt of your last kind letter of July 15-
Since writing you last I have had time to consider my position & the out look for the coming year. My Land Lord's family who he left in my care & treatment while he went to England to attend The Jubelee has returned home & taken his attendants back to Heydrabad- During their stay we did not pay rent- (4 Months.) & had planned to save that sum to more perfectly open our free Dyspensary work- & we were much surprised on learning that we could not have the money unless we used it for rent- I was not disposed to contend for it for a moment, or for the rent for another year, as just then an offer had come to continue treatment begun here for a wealthy Native Prince's wife- & if I had these services to render would go to their city & have a sum given me enough to cover the coming years rent- & possibly also to go on even larger into free Dyspensary work- Here I was not so cautious as was prudent- too sangaine no doubt- as often before- The Princes wife responded most remarkably

house to house visiting now that
her - & we already had planned m
Heathen sisters - My heart will be
this life - so intense in its ever ha
poor Heathen - but certainly it will
not give myself as opportunity offer
tents - for it is a fact that so far
less Gospel work among the Heath
We have opened the school for our
& Miss James with a Marathi teachers
They are a most encouraging & intere
Sabbath - My work in the Reform
by a dear English lady is enlarging
sult of good done - So many conversio
Our Sabbath School in the Reform Sc
increasing in numbers & interest -
intendent allows in groups of 4 or 5
from the Bible - There are 230 in a
daily dispensary - & our house to hous
so far - God has only sent us Bless
this land where living is so cheap i
& little help that we can count on

t two ladies are Comming to assist
many means of better reaching our
be made most sad to give up
chance of living for + with these
will be foolish to remain if I can
ffers to my poor + dependant pa-
r I have less Control + can do
ealthy Classes than among the poor.
ur little low caste naked children
rs keep ~~has~~ 50 or more little scholars
teresting group on week days + on
n Hospital for fallen women opened
f + giving more + more proof of re-
ssions among the poor girls-
school-for little Convict boys is
They love to come here when the Super-
5 to our house, + sing + hear stories
all of these boys - beside our
ouse visitations- We have not wante
ssings - + a little goes so far in
in Comparison to America-
n is all we wished to accept

to the treatment used - and has made a good recovery - so that really she is no longer my patient This cannot be called a disappointment - We thank God for His blessing! and feel sure the Heathen Prince feels he has been dealing with those who have his best interests truly at heart - But the facts are that we cannot claim even a part of the sum expected from the native prince - nor can we claim the money we have saved from our rent - because we treated our Land lords family + he gave us rent free for the time. There fore the provisions we had planned to depend upon for the comming year are so far not available - Perhaps this present test of our faith is only the going before of other kind providences we dont see yet - but plain facts are, that it has been a doubtful matter in my mind whether it is wise to try + go on doing so much free work if we are to receive no help from any source only my earnings -

A physcian in the Home land could not hope to support a Dyspensary all him self + also try + give shelter to many who came to beg for a bed + help when sick + no friends to go to - How can I expect to do more here - Really I had expected help to be continued for some part of the work begun - But I do not now wish to press any claim - if other branches of work will suffer -

It seems as if we had just begun to know our ground and have gained the confidence of so many dear

& we will not even press this,
your board decide the work
had hoped for. Miss James ha
said, ~~that~~ she will only accept
told her I can economize in som
with her. And so if it is best to
sent for Zenana keepers we can g
have been born here & who know t
is such a capital nurse I should
she leave me. & she has the hearts
they have learned to know her at the
Even the most superstitious ask her
So we have decided to share our
Please excuse so long a letter
With warm Christian love. Yo
C

s, if you [illegible]
e living done is not what you
has decided after what has been
ht her own earnings - & I have
some ways & share my living.
to continue work & any sum is
get native women or those who
w the language better, Miss James
d feel quite at a loss shaved
rts of our patients so perfectly - as
the bed side of dear sick ones -
er to sing to them of Jesus -
r fortunes while we stay.
ter again -

Yours truly
Alice B. Condict

Alice B. Condict
Bombay - Aug. 23
1897

De Regt. Wm. C.

Hamilton College May 21, '86.

Mr. N. G. Clark.

Dear Sir :-

A perusal of Dr. Smith's letters has given me a much clearer idea of the work. I keep the map, but will return it if you wish it.

I will be ready on the day you may designate. At the proper time please send directions about where to ship goods. I think I will need about one hundred & fifty dollars ($150.00) to use here in purchasing my outfit. I am glad the Board makes such a provision, for without it I would have to borrow, as my education has taken all my available money.

I count myself fortunate to be able to go in company with Mr & Mrs Chandler & to have their direction for almost the whole trip.

Any suggestions you may offer will be happily received.

Respectfully,

William deRegt.

Hamilton Coll., May 21, 1887,
Rec'd May 23.

Clinton. May 4. 1887.

Mr. N. G. Clark.

Dear Sir,-

I received a few days since a letter from Mr E. K. Alden notifying me of my appointment. He said all the particulars would be communicated by you. I beg to be informed as early as possible that I may make my plans accordingly.

Respectfully

William de Riet

0.00

Clinton. Oneida Co. N. Y.

May 26. 1887.

Received From:-

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions one hundred & fifty dollars to be applied on outfit.

William de Riet.

Clinton, May 4. 1887.

Rec'd May 5.

Hamilton College. May 26. 87

Mr. N. G. Clark.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter received. thank you very much. Father wishes to know about what salary is connected with the position I will hold. I did not know. Have you any idea or any way of finding out? If you just inform Mr Scott he will put it in his letter. I have written to him about furniture & some other things.

I expect to remain at home most of the summer & my address will be Clinton
Oneida Co.
N.Y.

Very Respectfully,
William A. Regt.

Hamilton Coll. May 26, 1887.

Rec'd May 27.

Mahratta c

Clinton. July 26 1887.

Mr. N. G. Clark:

Dear Sir:-

I will be ready to go on Sept. 8. I am very much obliged for the check, it came to hand all right. I will try to be in Boston on the 5th or 6th of Sept. I received a letter from Mr Smith yesterday. He welcomed me to Ahmednagar & offered me a home with himself & Mrs. Smith.

Will you furnish the institution with a set of apparatus for chemical experimentation? The expense will not be great and I think, from Mr. Smith's letter, that it is very much needed. The chemicals &c. can undoubtedly be obtained in Bombay & I think 100.00 would be the outside price, if you desire I will make a careful estimate.

Respectfully

William Mc Regv.

July 26 1887
July 26 1887

✓

203

Clinton. Sept 3. 1887.

Mr N. G. Clark:

Dear Sir,

I expect to
rive in Boston on the 4.30, B.&A., train
onday Sept 5. My Father intends to
ccompany me. I will call on you at
he Congregational Rooms on tuesday at
ny time you may set. Please leave
ord at Kimballs boarding house.

Respectfully

William McKight.

Clinton, Sep. 3. 1887.

Rec'd Sep. 5.

204

London, Sept. 25, 1887.

Rev N. G. Clark:

Dear Sir,

Our Indian party is to
l on the Clan Buchanan, Sept. 29, direct to
bay. The ~~two~~ ladies & myself are quite well.
had a splendid Atlantic voyage, not one bad
. So far London weather has been all that
ld be asked for. Mr & Mrs Chandler go to
drase so we loose their company on our long
age. Though greatly to their advantage we are
ry to have them leave us. The Turkey party
e in the morning. When we left Boston
r intention was to go by the P & O line to Bombay.
is line charges £68 with 25% off to missionaries
a ticket would cost £51. The Clan line make
ir tickets £40, showing quite a difference, &
r good satisfaction. These steamers sail from
rpool every Thursday.

Respectfully

William H. Rigg.

London, Sep. 25, 1887.

Rec'd Oct. 8.

Ahmednagar, Nov. 15 1887.

Rev. N. G. Clark,

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to announce
e safe arrival of the India party at Bombay
nd my own arrival in Ahmednagar. Our
ourney was one of the pleasantest, not a stormy
ay. The Ladies suffered no bad effects from
e sea; as for myself I was not, in the least,
oubled. Our worst trial, after leaving Boston,
as to say good by to our friends bound for
rkey & Madras.

Mr Smith, Mr Hume & Mr Abbot came on
nd the Clan Buchanan as soon as she dropped
chor off the Princess Dock and saw us safely on
ore. A pleasant reception was tendered us at
r Hume's bungalo by the boys & girls of the
hool. Having made a few purchases, Mr Smith
nd myself left for Nagar the same evening.
lroading in India is very deliberate I
ppose to avoid precipitate disasters. Arrived in
ar I rested a day & then went to work. The
hool is of a character & prosperous beyond my
ectations. The amount of work accomplished
Mr Smith in the last few years is simply

wonderful. I am the more surprised as I learn about the people & their ways. It is evident that there is something in the school or boys would not come here & be made to study the bible when by going to the Government school they would escape it.

I teach the seventh standard Mechanics, Chemistry, Astronomy & Bible & will have classes in Latin & Physics as soon as the college class commences, after the Matriculation.

My department is not supplied with apparatus for physical or chemical experimentation & in such subjects illustration is very essentia If I were Artemus Ward I would label this a hint

I am boarding with Mr & Mrs Smith in the Castle. They are very kind & give me the benefit of much valuable experience. A few days after my arrival the students gave me a public reception in the chapel. The pretty ceremony of flowers, rose water, and sandal wood oil was gone through wit & I was considered duly installed.

My health has not been very good since I landed; I lay it to the long sea voyage, which I think very debilitating, yet perhaps it is the new climate.

I see by the constitution of the mission that "Rs 30 are allowed per month for the keeping of a conveyance." I wish to ask if this Rs 30 per month can be drawn a sufficient time & used to purchase a bycicle. I presume the reference is to a horse & carriage. I do not care to keep a carriage but walking about town is so unpleasant that some kind of a conveyance is necessary. This would be the cheaper for the mission for ultimately they pay for the horse & carriage & in this case there would be no expense after the wheel was payed for, which would take but a few months. Please let me know what you think about it.

Very Respectfully

William I. Right.

P.S.

I congratulate The Board on the hearty support the received at the Springfield meeting.

I. R.

Rev. Wm. de Regt, S

Ahmednagar, Nov. 15, /87,

Rec'd Dec. 19.

✓

Ahmednagar, Feb. 9. 1888.

Rev. N. G. Clark:

Dear Sir—

Many thanks for your kind letter. I shall purchase a bicycle in Bombay & draw my conveyance allowance untill it is paid for. Anything, even an American nail-puller, can be purchased in Bombay.

Mr Smith gave me a day last week and I used it in visiting Bombay with Messrs Wood & Silver. The gentlemen called on me on their way across India.

My goods have arrived — the lamp was the only whole thing in the lot. Perhaps by next writing I will be able to say that they are patched up.

Mr Smith has given up his study to be used as a science room. It was very good of him for we had no spare room with it & now we are decidedly crowded. The nurse & baby have to sleep in the room Mr Smith has taken for an office as there is only one room for Mr & Mrs Smith & one for me & a dining room, used as a sitting room also, left.

We are thinking of every possible way by which to get a new building and waiting to hear how much the Board can assist us.

If you please Sir, have I a vote in the mission meetings. You spoke to me about it in Boston but I am not sure & would like very much to know.

I am very well, teach four classes each day, two Latin & two science.

Hoping you will not consider this too much trouble I remain.

Yours truly,
William de Regt.

Ahmednagar. Feb. 9, 1888

Rec'd Mar. 12

✓

Fairbank Edward

Enfield, Mass
Aug 2, 88.

Dear Sir, — Rec'd Aug. 9

Excuse delay in reply to yours of the 10th July; it was partly due to the change in address. Enclosed letter will give you desired information.

Yours in the bonds
Edward Fairbanks

Enfield, Mass.

85 West Divinity.
Yale University.-
Nov. 13, 89.

Rec'd Nov. 15

Dr. Judson Smith

Dear Sir,-

In the Seminary we have lately formed a number of circles to study into the mission fields. I belong to an India circle of five members. We desire to have a map of the country, & as much missionary intelligence as we can obtain. We shall be willing to defray expenses. Can I apply tivo

Yale Universi

Nov. 20, '1

to you for the above?

Yours sincerely
Edward Fairbank

There are thus three circles for Japan, two for India, one for Africa & covering the whole ground. These circles are to meet regularly once in two weeks & are liable to be called on for papers any time, to be read before the whole Seminary. Thorough work is intended. A model Missionary meeting is planned for one of the Seminary meetings.

Feeling that you would be interested to know this I have written.

Yours sincerely

Edward Fairbanks

Yale University. -
Nov. 20, '89.

Rec'd Nov 21. 1889.

Dr. Judson Smith, -

Dear Sir, -

Your kind note & the papers asked for came promptly, last week. I want to thank you for what you have sent me & also for your note of interest.

The facts concerning the study of missionary intelligence in Yale may not be fully known to you.

arrived here I found that there was a desire among many to enter upon a more or less extensive study of missions. The matter received some attention at that time. After the American Board meeting – the interest in the movement became still more apparent. The climax was reached when Mr. E. L. Smith of the Senior class returned from the meeting of the Inter-Seminary Alliance. He stated before the meeting the lack of missionary intelligence among Yale students & the great need of the ministry for men who were conversant with the main facts of missions. A committee was appointed, who canvassed the classes & prepared a method of procedure. About two thirds of the Seminary entered into the plan. Each student chose the country he wished to study & was thus placed in a circle for study.

Fairbank, Rev. Henry

work; Morgan I feel most hesitation about; for I think he sometimes appears ~~to~~ of a rather negative character without enough self assertion; but I know that at times he feels drawn to the work, & would consider any call very seriously. He certainly is a thoroughly good man.

(4) Pom has thought some-what of going into the for-eign work. So Lawrence told me, but of his present state of mind I know nothing. He and the others mentioned, I would have no hesitation in recommending to you

Ans Feb 3. 88

110 W. D. H.

Laurence

Paddock

Morgan

Poor

New Haven 31st Jany 88

Rev. E. H. Alden D.D.

Dear Sir

Your letter recd. last week has put me in a somewhat embarassing position, for I feel that you have set me at something very responsible. For this reason I have delayed thus far.

In what I say, I give my own judgment, deduced from what I have seen & heard myself & you can attach to it importance only as an individual judgment, of course.

I give you a list of men who seem to me to be fitted for the work, & shall then

These men are Carr, Holden Lawrence Morgan Paddock Poor & Stanford. I forgot to answer your first question, as to whether there were any who had decided already for the foreign work, because I knew of none, & therefore the principal answer would be to the second question, as to whether any could be wisely approached. The men above named, it seems to me, would be first class men. They are men of consecration & men of good ability & health.

1. Lawrence is the man of most earnest purpose, I think,

safer man, because he is of an impulsive, quick temperament, & shows outwardly what his purposes are. He says that he is impatient for work & that he could not bear to wait 2 or 3 yrs to learn a language, & that moreover he has very little aptitude for learning languages, so he does not feel at all attracted to the foreign work. But he can be approached very wisely I think

v. Paddock & Morgan are both rather old men. I think, Paddock is a very fine man thoroughly devoted to his recommending [illegible] for your work. You have my first judgment, & I hope most earnestly that the Lord of the harvest would raise up labourers for this harvest. I have felt so sorry sometimes that we could not be stirred up here at Yale to look at the foreign field more, but the interest (though the missionary society here is doing finely, & all are interested) does not extend so far as to make them feel a call to go.

You may certainly count on my applying for the Mahratta Mission next year, if all things are as they are now, for my mind is fully made up that if the Am. Board will take me, I will go.

Hoping that this letter may be of real service to you

I remain

Yours truly

Henry Fairbank

P.S. I send you a catalogue of the Sem. with the names marked that you may see their addresses &c.

Nov 2 85 — not Absolutely

Ave 00 — then Rev Mr Gradied

are men, who would do what they could when they felt that God called them. There may be other men, who are adapted for your work, & who would go, but I know nothing definite about them, & these are the only men whom I could recommend to you with confidence. I write to you with much hesitation because I know my own judgment of these men may be mistaken, & I also feel that there is a responsibility in

110 W. D. H.,
New Haven 27th Apr. 85

Rev. Judson Smith

Dear Sir

Will you please send to my address two manuals for applicants for foreign work I dont know know the exact title of the little manual that gives directions to all who are applying to the Board for work, but I think you will understand what I mean,

I am yours truly
Henry Fairbank

New Haven, April 27-1885

Rec'd April 29

Sent West India.

Henry Fairbanks Nov 2 - 85

Henry Fairbanks
Re. Nov 2 85
Ans do

---

160 West Div Hall
New Haven 30th Oct 85

Rev E K Alden DD

Dear Sir

This is to request you to direct these letters to their proper addresses, as I have not them. They are to ask Mr Goodrich & Mr Brown if they can come & see us this year, and talk to the Missionary Society. I spoke to Rev J. S. Chandler about coming down, and he said that I had better go to you as you had the disposal of him. Can you

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and him down to
us some time. Some time
next term will be the best
time, any Monday evening
from Jan. 1st to the end
of May will be a most
convenient time to have
him come. For some reason
I should like it if we
could arrange to have him
*come to us in March some
time.

The matter of which you wrote
me I hope to have settled
soon. and will then write
you.

Hoping this will not trouble
you much
I remain
Yours truly
Henry Fairbank

Mrs. Henry Fairbank
West India
118 W-D-K.

New Haven 11th Nov 85

Rev Judson Smith D.D.

Rec'd Nov. 13.

Dear Sir

I wish to ask of you if you will please look over this list of missionaries, & see if the addresses be correct. We wish to write to them, and want our letters to reach their destination. If addresses are not correct, please write the proper address. I am sorry to put you to the trouble but I don't see any other way to do it.

I am
Yours truly
Henry Fairbank

213

P.S. I am not absolutely
sure whether Rev Mr Goodrich
has a D.D. affixed to his
name or not. Could you
please put it on if he has.
There are other missionaries
who are in the country, I
know, but I lost a little
list I had of them, and
cannot recall their names
or their missions. If you
will be so kind as to give
me some of their names,
I will write to them at
once. I would write to
Dr Clark but I know that
he has not been at the
Missionary House, and I
don't know when he will
be there. Jam. te H. Pinken

H Fairbanks

H Fairbanks May 16 1886

110 W.D.H.,
New Haven 16 Mai '86

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir.

I have thought several times lately about writing to you & telling you of my plans & asking for any suggestions.

We get through here ~~on~~ + the 20th of May. I hope that my ordination will take place early in June. That will be at Hatfield, where Mr Woods my brother-in-law is settled.

2/H

The reunion of my College class comes about the end of June. at the time of the Amherst

New Haven, March 19, 1886.
Rec'd March 22

wish very much to stay to that. But as soon as possible after that is over I would wish to get away.

That in brief is the prospectus for me while here in this country. I should be glad of any suggestion or counsels. In any case I thought I ought to acquaint you with my plans, so that you may know what to expect. Dr Alden stirred us up last night as we have not been stirred for a long while. I hope the American Board will see some substantial fruits, not far hence.

I am
Yours most sincerely
Henry Fairbank

~~Rev. [illegible]~~

New Haven, March, 19, 1886.

Rec'd March 22

110 W. D. H.

New Haven Mar 19. '86

Dear Dr Clark

I have thought before of writing to you to ask for some of the outfit money, but have not quite known whether to do so, or not. But after the reception of your letter I have decided to do so, Some things I have got already that have taken all my extra cash, & there are some things that I can get from time to time, which I would not get right off if I did not have the money.

So I write to ask you for $50:00 at this time.

As to the detailed account, I will send you one, if you wish,

Fairbank Mar 19 1886

916

Our Missionary Board is growing slowly, & some I think are settled "Still there are some to follow."

In haste

Yours sincerely

Henry Fairbank.

Henry Fairbank

Western India

110 W.D.H.,
New Haven 3d May 86.

Rev. Judson Smith D.D.!

Dear Sir. Rec'd May 4.

My ordination preparatory to my going to India is drawing near. That occasion would to me be lacking one essential feature if some one of the Secretaries of the Board were not present. I am personally acquainted with Dr Alden and therefore wrote to him asking if he could be present. He tells me that he probably cannot come. So I write to you to ask if you cannot come and make the ordaining prayer.

The council will be assembled at Hatfield Mass. on the 27th of May. 3 weeks from next Thursday. The examination will be in the morning, the ordination in the afternoon. If you cannot come the day previous, by leaving Boston at 9 you can reach Hatfield at 2 in the afternoon in plenty of season for the ex-

You can also return the same evening getting into Boston about 10.

Hoping that you can come

I remain
yours truly
Henry Fairbanks

Marash

H. Fairbank —

May 3 1886

H Fairbank

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110 W. D. H.

New Haven 3d May '86

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir.

I write for information about sailing. What arrangements are generally made about getting tickets? The reason I ask is this. I have a brother-in-law who is going to Europe with me, and of course we want to get a state room together, if we possibly can. As the time is drawing near I want to know what to a stateroom with him

Furthermore I should like $75 more of my outfit money. I believe that will be $125 that I shall have drawn.

Do you think it is out of proportion for me to pay $50 for a shot gun? I have looked over things that I must get, and think that I can get it without crippling myself elsewhere.

I have bought all the books that I need, and I shall have money enough for clothes &c. I

don't want to seem
extravagant in anything
not absolutely essential
- A gun however is almost
a necessity in India
and if I get one I want
one that is worth getting.
I was glad to see your
letter to Mr Hume. I
hope that all things
are prospering at the
Missionary rooms.

I am
Yours truly
Henry Fairbank

H Fairbank May 17 1856

R May 4 86
Ansd.

W. D. A.

New Haven 3d May 86

Mr Alden

I was sorry to hear from you that you thought you could not be present at my ordination. To make sure that I have one of the Secretaries of the Board at Hatfield I have just written to Dr Smith asking him if he can be present and make the ordaining prayer. Hoping that he can come I am in haste yrs truly
Henry Fairbanks

Please send me ~~copies~~ the blanks to be filled out by missionary candidates, I mean the ~~two~~ blanks in regard to health, the one to be filled out by the physician and the one by the candidate.

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H Fairbank May 4 1886

H. Fairbank

H. Fairbank

1886 May 12

110 W. D. H.,
New Haven 12 May 86

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir

I have heard from Mr Woods, and we should like to start from Boston on the Cephalonia on the 8th of July. If Mr Ward would like to communicate on the matter directly with Mr Woods His address is Hatfield Hampshire Co Mass. I am afraid that it may be somewhat of a

220

arrange this
matter, so ~~that~~ we can
go together, but as long
as we are going together
of course we would like
to bunk together.
I am going to Boston, About the 1st of June
to make some final
purchases, and will
then consult with you
as to passage from England.
We get there here next
week Thursday. Then
the week after I am
ordained, and then
I have a month to
rest in. I shall be
in England a week
or two, and the
voyage from there will

[illegible] some 4 weeks, so
I think I shall get
some rest before getting
out there. I know
that this is a bad time
of the year to go there,
but you know that
there is somebody at
the other end who
would feel somewhat
keenly any very great
delay. I suppose it
makes some difference
with me too ~~I imagine~~
but I am intending
to take a good rest
during the three months
that will elapse before
I get to India.

But no reason at

H Fairbanks, May 6 1888

110 W. D. St.,
New Haven 6th May 88

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir

The check for $175 recd this morning.

As to steamers, I think I had just as soon go from Boston as not, only as my brother-in-law is going with me I wished to secure tickets so that I could room with him.

But I will consult with him and write to you more fully in a day or two.

Yours truly
Henry Fairbanks

Rev. Henry Fairbank.

Mich. Indian.

present.

Hoping that the explanation will be convenient for you.

I remain

Yours respectfully

Henry Fairbank

Henry Fairbank May 3 1886

Mah. Indian.

Hatfield June 10th
1886

Rev. Judson Smith D.D.

Recd June 12

Dear Sir

When I was in Boston recently I called at your room, and did not find you in. I wished to thank you for coming to Hatfield ~~two~~ weeks ago, & assisting in the ordination services.

Mr Woods and his people join with me in this. They all were very glad you could come & represent the Board. I think ~~that~~ the presence of so many missionaries & missionary men will help

Northfield, July 1, 1886.
Rec'd July 2.

greatly to secure the interest of people in the neighboring towns in foreign missionary work.

Hoping to see you before I sail from Boston

I am

very sincerely yours

Henry Fairbank

Rev. Henry [illegible],

Hatfield, July 1, 1886.

Rec'd July 2.

Hatfield July 1. '86

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir

Your very kind letter reached me Monday. Thank you very much for your wise advice. I think it is the course I had marked out for myself. I hope it will be my good fortune to keep out of controversy. I also hope that I shall be enabled always to keep prominent the essentials, & let non-essentials go.

I shall be in Boston Wednesday, and shall ary to see you at that time.

Hoping to see you then I am

Yours sincerely
Henry Fairbank.

P.S. I am sorry that I could not be present at the farewell meeting I was very busy that week, and was unable therefore to attend.

H. F.

Ahmednagar 19th Oct 1886

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir

Your brief note, asking that the enclosed memorandum blank be filled out, came to hand this morning. I hope the answers to the questions proposed will be satisfactory.

It is entirely proper to send your kindly greetings to Mrs Fairbank. My wife and I have been married just a little over a month, The 16th of September was the eventful day, and since then we have been just as happy as two larks. For a wedding tour we went to the city of Bijapur some 70 miles from Sholapur. What was once a large city, capital of a large Mohammedan kingdom, is now a mass of ruins, with here and there some wonderful buildings. We did not go to see the buildings, however, but to have a real nice quiet time by ourselves, and our wish was gratified. We had a most delightful time, But if I should go on and tell you; Dr Clark of all the nice times that we have had since we were married, I should have to get two or three type writers, and keep them going full speed, for I don't know how long. Just one thing I want to say. I think that my missionary life will be made much more successful because of the good wife that God has given me.

She is writing beside me to you, We both felt that we wanted to write and tell you of our happiness, knowing that you would rejoice with us.

I have not intended this as a missionary letter at all, I have not got into the work as yet, enough to tell you much about my plans and purposes

In about a month we shall get to Wadale into active work, and then I shall write about my field &c.

Thanking you for your kind wishes and congratulations

I am

Very sincerely yours

Henry Fairbank

Ahmednagar Oct 19, '86.
Rec'd Nov. 22.

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Ahmednagar India
(Wadale) Feb. 21st 1887

Dear Dr Clark

I wrote you some-time ago about my arrival, but have said nothing to you about the work under my charge.

The work nominally was in my hands from the 1st of Jan. '87 but practically fathers going to the hills for a much needed change left his field in my care from the 1st of Dec. My time at the first I did not spend in studying very much. The little touch of fever that I experienced in October which came from too much study warned me not to do too much in that direction. Not being able to study was not so great a disadvantage to me, from the fact that from the first day of landing I have been able to understand & talk the language of the people, very imperfectly, to be sure, at first, but still better than if I had had six months

of study without any previous knowledge
The little study that I had in Oct
helped me in reading & in grammar
so that I have not been inconvenienced
at all in my work here by not being able to understand or make myself understood.

My time, which was not employed
in study I found could be fully
occupied in looking after the buildings
which were in process of Erection here,
and in the garden, and in talking
to the numerous visitors who come
on school business or for medicine, or
just to make a call. I visited
some of the schools on this field
during Nov. & Dec. but could not do
very much at that work for lack
of horses & conveyance. both of which
are happily secured now.

A heavy rain the 2d week in
Dec made touring impossible for several
weeks, & has made travelling over
any road but the macadamised
road extremely uncomfortable & al-

most unsafe, for some roads are almost impassable yet on account of deep gullies cut by the torrents

However, on the 13th of January we ventured out, our first stopping place being Zawkhede 18 miles from Wadale. This place is very interesting for the reason that in some 7 years all of the Mahar families of the village except one have become Christian

7 years ago the first teacher went there, and tho the one sent first could not stay very long, the second one Zakkoba did, and accomplished a very great work He said he was almost despairing at first. The villagers would not come to meeting on Sunday or listen to anything he had to say about religion But finally there came a change and the whole of the Mahar caste seemed to be touched, and now there are some 39 ~~baptized~~ communicants

in the place besides the baptized infants amounting to as many more. It has almost become a fashion there to become Christian, so that we have to guard against those coming into the Church who are not yet conscious of the power of Christ to save them from their sin. As one young man expressed it, the Christians just talk to the rest, & give them no peace till they are willing to come & be made Christians. The being made Christian by being baptized & by partaking of the Lord's supper savors too much of the methods of some other missionaries, i.e. of other missions & too little of the methods of the gospel. But the work, for all that, is advancing steadily there. The people need to be taught, for they are extremely ignorant & simple. There was no educated woman there, till a new teacher with that important factor, an educated wife, was sent to them. She at once found favor & seemed very happy in having found a work to do. Daily meetings were arranged for by Mrs F. at which the women were to learn the stories of Deborah, Gideon, Jephthah Samson & Micah, and to commit to memory the 3d chap. of Ephesians. Sunday we spent there & had a very interesting service at which about 12 children were baptised & 4 people admitted to the church. The fact that the Sahib & Madam Sahib, (Mrs F & myself) had been there to see them will be an incentive to them for several years to come, but we mean to visit them again next year if possible. There are in other villages near other Christians, amounting to quite a large Christian population in & and about Zawlkhude. The exact number I will tell later.

Our next camping place was Awhane Here there are four towns within a Radius of a mile. two Awhanes

Barhanpur & Shahpur. Shahpur is however deserted now & Barhanpur is the smallest of the three others so that the two Awhanes are the important places. We have a good teacher here, & Sunday had a very interesting service. 16 persons were admitted to the church 11 women & 5 men. One of the women has a remarkable history. Her family for generations have been Gosavis, and held in honor for being religious teachers. Last fall a son of hers was admitted as a boarding scholar to the station school at Wadale. It was the turning point in her history. She gave up her profession of religious mendicant & has entered very heartily into the service of Christ. When questioned by Mrs F. she said that God converted her, no human power. I visited from Awhane Takli 10 miles away where is now stationed Lakhoba, who did so much at Lawkhede

His wife was sick at Lawkhede & he had to be changed. He is doing the same earnest work at Takli that he did at Lawkhede, having services twice every Sunday, & compelling the people to come & listen. ~~Our~~

Our next camping place was Dedgaw where is a Church ministered to by by the venerable Mahipatrao, a man enfeebled by age & sickness, but still earnest & zealous. We did not spend Sunday there, but simply two week days, going into the village & the Maharwada, & preaching & examining the school. The school has some 25 or 30 in it. One of our largest schools.

On the the way back to Wadale from Dedgaw we stopped at Kaunthe where a school has just been opened. A place inside the ~~city~~ village walls has been obtained and we expect a large school of all castes. Here I want to explain how important a fact that is. and how important is the other fact that the villagers themselves are glad to admit us. Once it was hard to get into the Maharwada even but now in almost any village in this field I could get a place for a Mission school inside the ~~city~~ village walls, and the higher caste that live in the village are very glad to have us come. Just the other day one of my teachers came to me & said that the people in the village where he lived would give me a place for the school & send their children if I would only repair the house that they would place at my disposal. I told them that if they would give me a registered paper guaranteeing the place to the Mission for a school as long as they were pleased & continue their school I would repair the schoolhouse. I have heard nothing as yet but I have no doubt that they will do it. So at Kanthe the patil of the village & other Kunbis (farmer caste) promised to send their children if I would put the school house inside the town. This I have done, and the work is under way of building the schoolhouse.

I have left but little room to notice the tour that Dr Ballantine and I took with some of our native helpers. I find I have but this half sheet left, so I will fill this, and write some more when I get paper from Nagar tomorrow.

At the meeting in October, the native association or Union of Churches as it is called, were invited to send a delegation to look into the affairs of the two churches of Rahuri & Wambori in Dr Ballantine's field. I found out this, and asked them to continue their tour & visit three places in my field. Sonai, where the pastor has been very remiss, tending to his fields instead of his church; and 2nd Shingave Tukai, a church of 35 years standing, strong in numbers & strong in zeal, but without a pastor for some 5 or 6 yrs. The Aikya (Union of churches) has all pastoral matters in their hands & they were to consider about a pastor for Shingave Tukai.

The third place I wanted these ~~Drs.~~ to was Lawkhede, to form a church. Lawkhede has been under the Shingave Tukai church. but it is fourteen miles away, and there are 15 baptised persons in & about Lawkhede, i.e. Tisgaw has some 8 or 10; Hiware, some 9 or 10, and others in like manner.

I will leave Dr Ballantine to tell about the results in his field. I will tell simply about mine. Friday Feb. 4th was spent at Sonai, and the facts about the pastor's negligence ascertained; ~~and~~ then there was a very serious talk with him by the three responsible members of the Aikya listened to by Dr B. & myself. who were called in to assist ma in a while with our advice.

They decided that two alternatives should be given to him, either sell his fields or give up his pastorate. The pastor promised to do the first. He is not a very able man, but still can do good work at Sonai if he only will.

It is a curious fact, though not inexplicable, that the S.P.G. Missionaries even in places wholly given up to them find it hard work to keep their people loyal to them. Now Sonai was never given up to them, but they came and established a station school, i.e. a boarding school there. One of their Missionaries resided there for a while, they give a great deal of money to those who come to their S.S. Then on the part of the American Mission there has been negligence in attending to them. And yet the people, as a body, are still loyal to us. Only two or three families have gone over to the S.P.G. I speak of this to show the hold that the American Mission has on the native population in all this region.

Our next camping place was Lawkhede. We had a hard journey of 20 or 22 miles over bad roads crossed by several sandy riverbeds that made it very tiresome travelling.

Saturday evening, about 7.30 o'clock Dr B. & I got to our camping place, & then the tent had to be put up and supper made ready. We were very ready to go to bed early & get up late Sunday morning, especially as we knew that the people would not come to meeting very early. About 9 o'clock Dr B. and I went to the village & found that there was a goodly company of pastors & preachers gathered there. Half went to further Lawkhede & half went into the hither town (there are two towns on either side of the river) and had an evangelistic service, getting quite an audience of Hindoos to listen.

The principal service was in the evening when we had a meeting to form the new church. It was held out doors in the moonlight right in front of the Mission Schoolhouse. Zakhuka, the teacher previously mentioned as doing so much for Lawkhede while there made the statement about the growth of the church, In all, there were to be in this new church some 60 communicants, and about as many more ~~chil~~ baptized children & adults not communicants, in all 115 souls. I will not weary you with details but will simply state that all present were very much gratified at the spirit shown by the native Christians of Lawkhede. They are very earnest & generous.

From Lawkhede we came to Shingone Tubai, where they need a pastor badly But there was not money enough to pay the pastor, so the present preacher supported by the mission is to ~~to~~ be continued in his present position

At the meeting held in the evening, the Patil & Kulkarni, the official heads of the village, one a ~~Kunbi~~ Kunabi & the other a Brahmin came & listened to all we said, and promised help by giving tithes. Such a thing was never heard of before to my knowledge. In many places they are friendly enough, but they would as soon think of eating with a Christian as giving him any help.

But I have spun this out very long. One or two things I wish to say to show that the work is very favorable at present.

1. In every place we go to there are enquirers, one or two at least, and in some places many.
2. The higher castes are becoming more favorable, in this respect at least, that they are very willing to have Christian schools established in their villages.

With these remarks I close earnestly hoping that money for building houses in the villages may speedily be obtained.

I am yours very sincerely
Henry Fairbank

Henry Fairbank
Feb. 21, 1884
Rec'd Apr. 10, 1884

Green Hill Mahabaleshwar
27th May 1887

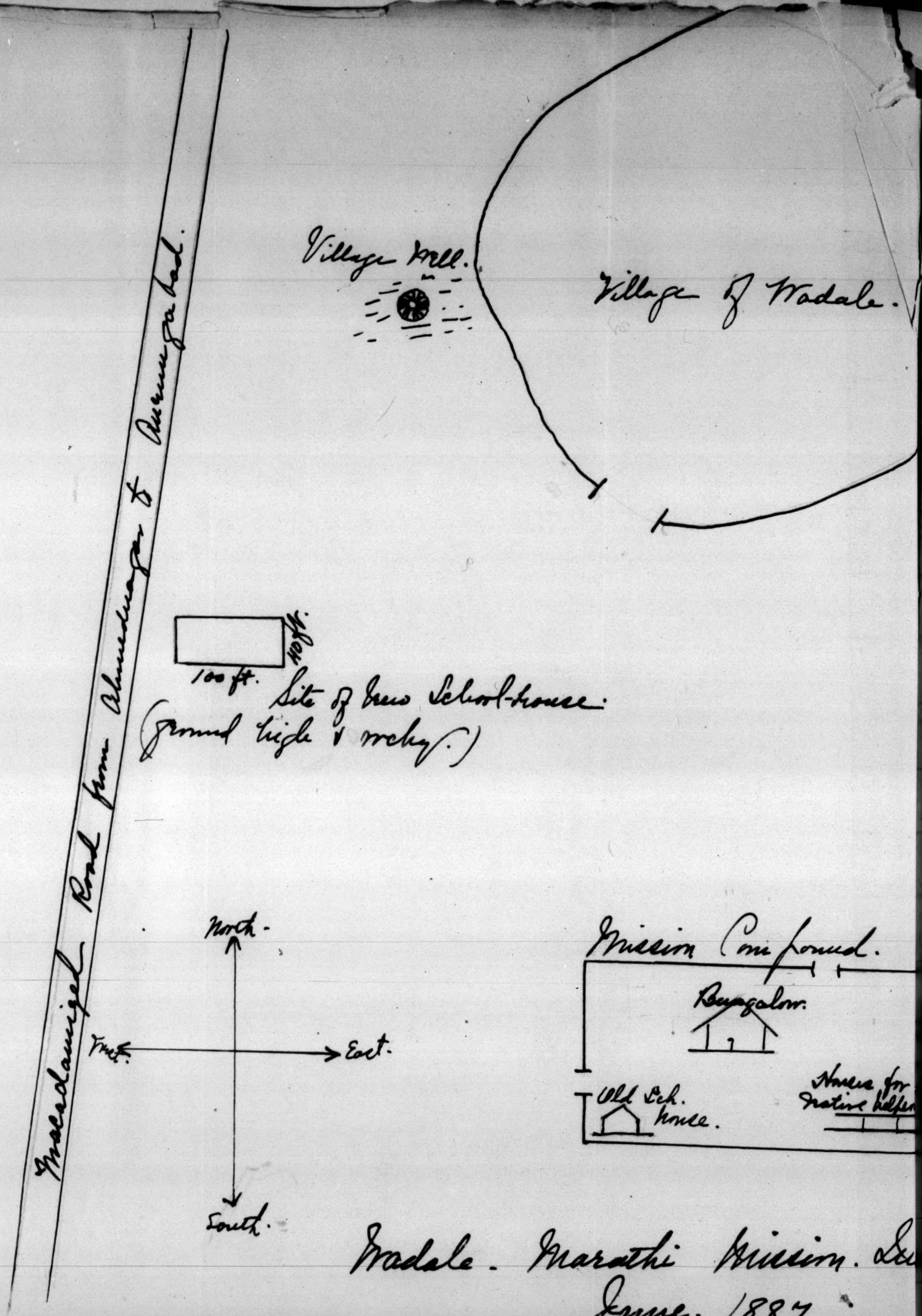
Dear Dr Clark

A very kind letter from you reached me only a few days ago, I thank you very much for your interest in my wife & myself. Thank you also for your suggestions. I feel the need of constant visiting on the part of the Missionary. We have one drawback however, and that is the rainy season, when once the rains set in the roads are almost impossable, During the cold season however I mean to do as much as possible, and my wife will go as much as possible with me.

My principal purpose in writing this letter is to write in respect to a resolution passed by the Mission last week. It is in reference to the granty for a schoolhouse of 500 Rs

put down in the contingents
The reasons for the request are as follows.
1. The unfitness of the building now used as a schoolhouse at Wadale. It was put up, so father tells me as a temporary affair, and consequently is small, Our school of 30 or 35 find it very small indeed and when we get an audience on Sunday of 125 or 20 we have to adjourn to the trees in the yard.

But there is another objection still more serious. During the rains when we have the most need of a schoolhouse the floor of the schoolhouse gets very damp, and sometimes even wet. Last November, when we had a great rain the building was unsafe for 3 or 4 weeks. The reason for this is its bad situation. All the drainage of the yard is toward that


Macadamized Road from Ahmednagar to Aurangabad.
Village Well.
Village of Wadale.
100 ft.
40 ft.
Site of New School-house.
(ground high & rocky.)
North.
West.
East.
South.
Mission Compound.
Bungalow.
Old Sch. house.
Houses for native helpers

Wadale. Marathi Mission.
June. 1887.

place, which is the lowest in the compound.

(2) The boys & girls in the village of Wadale will not come to the present schoolhouse. Some years ago several came, till one of the number died of cholera, and then the rest refused to come, and no one has been there since, from that caste.

That caste is the Kunabi or farmer caste, which forms the backbone of the agricultural population throughout India. Our converts are mostly from the Mahar caste, a very low caste. We rejoice to help them, but all the Missionaries here on the ground feel the need of getting into the higher castes.

Since I have come back to India I have felt very strongly moved to do something for this caste. Looking around for ways & means to reach them the most feasible plan seems this school at Wadale

The influential men at Wadale have promised to send their children to this schoolhouse which it is proposed to build outside the compound near the village. I have very little doubt that by this means we can get an entrance to their hearts. Father has lived among them so long that they no longer fear Christianity, & I think that they would not make much of an outcry, if their children come over.

It seems to me that if we can not have this schoolhouse we must give up the hope of reaching this caste in the Wadale district for some time to come. You ask perhaps, "can't you get along without this building for a while?" Well, I suppose we can, but only as a man can cover himself with rags, although a decent suit would fit him much better and would make him better.

That, it seems to me, is a fair statement of the case. The most important reason for this building is that it will help give an entrance into this very influential caste. If there were not an absolute necessity as it seems to us, we never would ask for this at this special time of shortened receipts, and increased expenditures. With this statement I leave the matter hoping & praying that there may be money to meet this pressing need. I enclose a plan of the town of Wadale showing the situation of things.

My wife unites with me in wishing you renewed health & strength & in prayers that you may be long preserved to the work. With love to yourself & Mrs Clark

I am your friend
Henry Fairbank

Green Hill, May 27, '87
Rec'd July 18.

Austin Smith Whittle

Ahmednagar 5th October '87

My Dear Dr Clark

A note received from you this morning says that the Committee have not yet come to the Estimates of the Marathi Mission & that the Contingent Estimate of Rs800 for a schoolhouse will then be considered. We have been hoping & praying all this year for those 800 rupees, & if we do not get them we shall be sorely discouraged. I was in Wadale last Sunday & noticed that the floor of the schoolhouse was again becoming damp, owing to the rain that we have had lately; And at the close of our little service there came in from the village some 20 leading Kunabis & sat and listened very attentively, But there was hardly room enough for them to sit down, and I wished I could have had the Prudential Committee there to sit in that small damp building. I think the 800 Rs would have been quickly forthcoming. But we hope that the money will come & that we can have a nice commodious building. I have had ~~several~~ two of the other Missionaries out there lately, Mr Abbott & Mr Hume & after meeting, the Kunabis would stop & talk very favorably. They have already promised me to put seven boys in my charge, to do with just as I please. You can come & take them to school every morning & send them home when you please. They understand that that means the possibility of their children becoming Christians, and are not scared by it. When my father was there just before he left for America we had a most impressive service the people all knew it would be their last chance to see him before he left. and the words spoken made a deep impression on them. It is hard sometimes to believe it, but that village must become Christian some time in the near future. But in the meantime want of a suitable building handicaps us very sorely.

My work has been principally in Nagar this rainy season in Mr Smith's College. Two classes a day one in Latin & one in History have taken up a good part of the day. The work is over now, but we shall not go out to Wadale till January probably.

I have been very sorry that my work at Wadale has been so interrupted, but I know it has been good for both of us. I have had better opportunities for Marathi than any I have enjoyed yet. The great trouble last winter was that touring interrupted & made regularity impossible. My ability to understand & talk familiarly with the people of course helped me a great deal during the winter, but I have lacked an accurate knowledge, and my vocabulary has been very limited. These rains I have studied very faithfully & have got a great deal of good from the study.

I want to speak of one thing before I close & that is the work that has been done among the women. Ruby has had a good Bible woman, & has achieved a great success in teaching Bible verses to the women of the village. Some are even beginning to read. When you think that they have seen the real kindness to the boys coming to school this success is very cheering. It makes a great difference out there in Wadale to have a lady ~~to~~ whom the women can go, & who can speak freely to them.

All things encourage us, only we have no schoolhouse. For this we hope & pray.

I am

Yrs truly

Henry Fairbank

Please remember us both kindly to Mrs Clark.

Henry Fairbank
Ahmednagar – Oct. 5 - 83

Murray House Mahableshwar.
18th April 1888

My Dear Dr Clark.

This week brought me a letter confirming news which I had already heard from Robert Woods to the effect that $200 had been raised for me in Hatfield & Westfield to help me build my schoolhouse. It was very welcome news, for we have been burdened by anxiety ever since the 1st of January. The reason was that I had begun building my schoolhouse & felt that I was getting into deep water. I had taken counsel of Mr Harding who advised me to go ahead & build, as the need seemed so great. The resources at my command were $150 received from Poughkeepsie N.Y. ($100 from Mrs Brayton & $50 from another friend) and $50 sent by friends in Meriden, in all $200. Relying on a Government grant I began work on the 20th of Dec or ~~thereabouts~~. The building is going to cost me more than I anticipated by about Rs175. That is the bare building without any furniture. Since then I have thought of putting in nice blackboards & other furniture as I get the money. I think there will be a surplus in my hands when I get the building all paid for, provided I get the half from Government. Of which there is no doubt. That surplus I can use for furniture. The building is sufficiently large to accommodate 250 people. The experience which I have got in doing this work will help me in the future very much.

There are other buildings which I need, but cannot put up for lack of money. In one or ~~two~~ large places the schools are held in the chowdi, or village rest house. They are large schools, & are hampered very much by the interruptions incident to their being held in such an open & frequented place. The work is permanent & demands ~~a~~ good buildings. These can be put up for 250 rupees apiece. Such buildings are needed in Newase especially where there are two good schools. If I could get 500 Rs for this purpose I should feel very glad. In your last letter to Dr Bissell you spoke of common schools & incidentally spoke of the cost of buildings as being trifling

If the building is trifling, the cost is trifling too, but that means the original expense to be incurred every year in repairs. Such buildings will not do for our large permanent schools. They need buildings costing from 150 to 250 Rupees. I shall put in 500 Rs as a contingent in this year's Estimates & beg as hard as I can for the money. And I shall make no more in the matter till I get the money definitely promised.

Touring I have been able to do very little of this year because my wife was not very strong, and our little boy, Samuel Ballantine Fairbank, was not 3 mos old. All that I have done has been to inspect my schools. These I have visited & examined. They are in a more efficient condition this year than last. Government grants were Rs140 for 6 schools for 1886. For 1887 Rs211 for 8 schools, and next year I hope the sum will be larger still. Most of these 211 rupees have gone in getting tables chairs & blackboards. All our schools are singularly deficient in furniture of any kind. The most essential is a blackboard and of these there are only two among 17 schools. I have had 13 more made & hope to get other things as necessity requires.

I will briefly state that Mrs Fairbank has a girls' school now with some 20 boarders. With a good school mistress she feels that the school is doing as well as can be expected. Most of her energies during the two months & a half that we spent at Wadale were devoted toward this school. We hope that the rainy season may give us opportunities of improving both the boys' school & the girls' school. We have been away from our field so much, that the schools have been neglected in the past. The future, we hope, will be different.

Mr de Rigt's death has saddened us all. We know not why he should have been taken. Mr Smith feels the loss very keenly, as de Rigt had made himself one of the family. I sincerely hope that Orr of Hatfield can come as soon as practicable. He is a good fellow, very capable & an earnest Christian. I knew him very intimately in College, as he was a class mate of mine.

Mrs Fairbank & I came up here about ten days ago. We are both feeling very well, and S.B.F. Jr. is the best boy that ever lived, so his mother says.

Please remember us both to Mrs Clark.

Believe me

Yours Sincerely

Henry Fairbank

Mahableshwa April 18-1888

Rec'd May 14

Wadale 18th July 1888

Rev N. G. Clark D.D

My Dear Dr Clark

Your letter of May 15th was duly received. In it you speak of the advisability of touring as much as possible. My wife & I hope to be able to do a great deal of that this coming winter. The little that I have done convinces me of its importance as Missionary work. However I find my self realizing my limitations more & more. I have come to know that I need to study very faithfully to keep up to the mark, or to get up to the mark. This rainy season I have been trying to do this as much as in me lies. I find that I do not have any inspiration in speaking to these people, because I do not know their language well enough & because I have not studied & thought enough. ~~[illegible]~~ In touring one gets a knowledge of the people but quiet meditative study is indispensable to me. We have been here at Wadale since about the 1st of June, and have enjoyed being among our own people again. The ~~two~~ station schools are so close under our eyes, that we can do for them a thousand times better than we could when we were in Nagar, as we were last season. You wonder where the funds for our girls boarding school have been obtained. The regular estimates had 184 Rs & we have received a number of subscriptions which will carry us ~~through~~ the year

You speak again in your letter of the cost of ~~starting~~ a village school The cost varies. In one village where the people are very anxious to start a school they promise to let me have a house for the teacher to live in. The rent for the house will be about 9 Rs for a year. The school will assemble in the village resthouse. Then $50 would easily be enough, But I find that these village rest houses are wretched places for pupils & teacher. There is no restriction upon the public and, almost all the time, there will be a company in one part of the room laughing & talking and disturbing both master & pupils. The best way in a new place is doubtless to start in the rest house so as to ascertain whether the pupils will come regularly or not, If they do come & the school is to be permanent the sooner a school building is provided the better. A good building such as we build for our schools will cost from Rs 150 to Rs 250. One half can be for the teacher & his family & the other half for the school. The teacher's salary will average 120 Rs. In the report I have spoken especially of the schools at Newase, where there are many visitors to the town or Government business. The County court & Magistrate's Offices are there and so the public rest house is full from morning to night of loafers who have no desire for the good of the school. Then one of the teachers has to cross quite a large stream 3 or 4 times a day because I have no house for him in that part of the town where he lives & does his work. The result is he gets sick all the time, and feels very much discouraged. There is another school in the same town. The teacher has a house to live in but no schoolhouse. I have put down some requests for school buildings in the estimates as you see. If I get the money I hope ~~that~~ some of these places that are lacking can be supplied. I have felt extremely sorry that Mr Orr could not come. May some good man come soon!

Sept 11th. This letter has had a long goby. The reason is that both Mrs Fairbank & myself have been sick not seriously, but with a wretched malarial boneache & fever, that have taken all the life out of us, and seriously interrupted our work.

My wife spent a month at Sholapur with her father & mother in the hopes of getting rid of this fever. The change benefited her very much, but even since she came back she has had slight attacks of fever. I spent in all two weeks at Sholapur, and am much better for the change.

This season has been almost without any rain, and all the people have suffered much. During the past month some of the poor have lived on half-rations. It is very hard to see them suffer. During the last week however rain has fallen to some extent, and the hopes of the people are ~~constantly~~ accordingly much brighter.

The scarcity of food has seriously interfered with our schools. Some of them are reduced to less than half of what they ought to be, and would have been, had there been rain.

The fathers & mothers of the children in our schools during the rainy season live largely by gathering the grass that grows readily in the cultivated fields, and selling it. This season there has been no grass to get. Consequently many families have migrated for the time being to regions where there was work to do. This of course has taken away many children from our schools. I have just heard of one school, at Bhende, In June there were some 25 names on the roll. Now there is not a scholar, and the teacher is assured by the villagers that he had better leave, as very soon ~~[illegible]~~ he will be the only man remaining in the town. The prospects of rain will help all this, and we hope our schools will soon be as flourishing as ever.

To turn from this topic to one much more agreeable to us, I wish to inform you that our new schoolhouse here at Wadale is at length completed, and that the school children look much better seated in a large airy roomy building than

than they used to in the little school-house, and on the front verandah.

The cost has been more than I anticipated, but the Govt grant will set matters right. This school house, however, which has ~~xxx~~ cost me a deal of anxiety in the past, does not bother me very much now. At present ~~Pxxxxx~~ I have to face a deficit in my accounts for the schoolhouses & master's houses in the outlying villages. At the end of last year I found that I had spent 359 Rs more than the estimates allowed me. That has been a source of anxiety to me all this year, for besides feeling anxious on account of the deficit I feel a burden on me, if these teachers are not properly provided for.

The sum provided this year has not been sufficient to enable me to make up the Rs 359. The truth of the matter is that the sum provided for repairs & rents is quite inadequate. I came here inexperienced & did some things which were not foolish in themselves, but which were beyond the means at my command

I shall slowly get wisdom on these money matters; but just now I feel like asking the Board to pay for some of the schoolhouses already built. One schoolhouse cost Rs 125, and another cost Rs 275. Part of this I can get out of my regular appropriations. Rs300 however would be very acceptable, and surely for a large territory like this, with 15 or more schools, Rs100 is not an extravagant sum to ask for enlargement during two years. Of course I do not include the money given for the schoolhouse at Wadale. The schools in the villages around about are what I refer to, and are to my mind deserving of not less than Rs500 a year for new buildings. If I get the grant of R750 for new buildings asked for next year part of this money could be used I suppose for this purpose, but I have set my heart on using that money for other places, notably Newasa. I shall, unless I see help from other quarters, ask the Mission to vote for Rs300 for schools in the

Wadale district, I shall not be in debt to the Mission in any case, but I find myself sorely crippled by thus spending part of my personal allowances to pay for Mission work that is not provided for in the regular estimates. The use of money, I find, is an art that needs to be cultivated. I have had a hard schooling during the last two years, and hope to have mastered some principles that will help me in the further use of money. Do not think that I mean, all the time, to begin spending money till I am in trouble and then to ask help from the Board. I realize that I ought to ask in advance a sum adequate to my needs, & this I am resolved to make my plan of action for the future.

26th Sept. There has been another delay for which I am very sorry.

In the meantime abundance of rain has fallen in this region & people are rejoicing greatly.

This rain has gladdened our hearts.

and we praise the Lord for his goodness to us. If only these people would learn from these times of trouble that God is to be feared & reverenced what a blessing it would be!

We are very much encouraged here at Wadale itself, because we are having quite a number of Kunabi boys & girls from the village attend school. There are some 10 or 12 girls & as many boys. They are very rough & untutored as yet, but are getting better right along. I go out every day to see the boys, and they are getting to be very regular in their attendance. I regard this as the most hopeful sign we have at present. We shall have to be very careful, not to offend their caste prejudices too much but I am convinced that the only way of reaching these Kunabis is through their children.

We have just heard that Sumantrao from Bombay is coming here to spend a week.

The work of this kind that he has done thus far has been very acceptable, and we look for much good from his coming.

Now that we have accommodation for our schools, we want to put into operation a plan that we have thought of for quite a little while. The Mission last Oct. decided to send boys to the Normal school better prepared than they are now. At present a boy who has passed the 4th standard is admitted to the Normal School. We want to send boys who have passed the 5th Standard. That means that the Station schools that supply the boys are to raise their standard.

We have boys enough here to do this with, but we are not in possession of the money. Rs300 is the sum at present supplied for boarding the pupils. If we have another Standard

and consequently more boys
we shall need at least Rs 100
more. With Rs 400 we would be
content for a time. Then the
boys need better accommodations
for sleeping, and eating.
There are two houses at present,
but they are not large enough
for the boys to sleep in, so we
have ~~t~~ send them to the school-house. We want a large sleeping
room, and that would do them
for a study room as well. Also
another house is needed where
their food can be cooked for them.
The sleeping room & the extra house
can be built for Rs 300. Can
you give us the money?
I shall try to bring in these
sums before the Mission & get
them approved in October.
But I want to bring them before
you now, so that you may
know our needs. We try to
get along as economically as

possible but there is a limit to our economy, and if we hope to do any advanced work the sums I have mentioned, are imperatively needed.

We have been discouraged at times in this season, When ever fever comes to us, and lays us by for two or three days, or when we look at this big district, and see how much there is to do, & how little strength we have to do it with, we feel that we are powerless indeed. Perhaps the Lord means to teach us that we are weak. Certainly we have realized it more this season than before, and we have realized that we have to wait upon the Lord, as we have never realized it before.

I hope my next letter will not be so blue as this. The cold season will put new life into us both without doubt.

We hope to do a great deal of

touring this season. I not only see our people, but gain vigor from this outdoor life. Mrs Fairbank sends her kindest regards to you & Mrs Black

I am

Yours sincerely
Henry Fairbank

Rev. Henry Fairbank,
Wadale, July 18, 1888,
Recd Oct. 29.

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Wadale 5th Nov. 1888

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir

In a letter written before the October meetings I tried to set forth some of my needs. There were two requests that I made; one for an additional Rs 100 for the Wadale station school, and the other for Rs 300 for two ~~new~~ recently erected school-houses. I brought the matter before the Mission, and they voted to ask for the additional Rs 100 for the station school. The Rs 300 they thought had better not be asked, in consideration of the fact ~~that~~ so much has already been asked from the Board for the purpose of building schoolhouses. They referred to the estimates sent in May, where a large sum is asked under the head of "Prepaid contingents" I hope now ~~that~~

Rev. Henry Fairbank

Govt. grants will help me about the Rs 300. The Rs 100 I hope can be granted. There is a splendid opportunity now for enlarging the work of our station school, and we feel tied & helpless without the necessary funds.

The Mission also voted to ask for an additional Rs 244 for the Wadale girls' school. In May we hesitated to ask more than the Rs 256 put into the Minutes, because the work was new. Now with a six months' experience we feel that we simply ask what is needed when we ask for Rs 500. This sum includes both tuition & board. My wife has written to Miss Child concerning this matter.

Another matter decided at the meeting was that ~~Mr~~ Harding & family & myself & family should be allowed to go to the Palanis during the hot season.

The reason for our going is that we are both subject to attacks of fever. The malaria seems to have taken a firm hold upon us. At Nagar I was obliged to absent myself from the meetings for 3 days because of fever & head ache.

Therefore we are going to Kodai Kanal hoping thereby to get this fever out of our systems. My wife has not had any fever now for a little over a month, but it is only with constant care that she keeps it off. We hope that the cold season & the out-door life we have in touring will help us both.

I have very little else to report, What I wished to say was said in my last letter.

Mrs Fairbank would wish to be remembered to Mrs Clark, if she were here to tell me so.

Believe me

Yours truly

Henry Fairbank

(Over)

P.S. I enclose the letter that my wife has written to Miss Child. Please read it & then hand it to her. H.F.

Rev. Henry Fairbanks.
Wadale Nov. 5, 1888.
Rec'd Dec. 10.
D. 6

In tents Sonai Ahmednagar District
Dec 12th 1888

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 2d Nov. has been received with unfeigned surprise & joy. I submitted at the October Meeting to the wish of the other brethren, as best I could, and withdrew my motion for an extra grant of Rs 300 for school buildings in the Wadale district, Now this money will help me a good deal, and I am truly grateful to the Lord for putting such a thought into the heart of bro. Bartlett.

We have been touring in ~~two~~ other places beside this, We went to Panchegaw, & Newase ~~and~~ ~~yet~~ and stayed a week in each place. We enjoyed our visits in those places intensely; ~~and~~ yet keenly & I felt much our inability to do what we would like to. There are so many opportunities for work, & so little strength to embrace them. More than ever I am impressed with the need of schools. They are the great feeders of our churches.

In connection with the Panchegaon church there are 4 schools, one at Panchegaon itself and three at a distance of about 6 miles. One or two other schools would help that church very much. The Sonai church has only two (2) schools in connection with it, and that is at Sonai itself & at Khamwandi. The latter school is very unsatisfactory indeed. There are two other places, both about 6 miles away, where we can put schools. They will materially affect the well being of the Sonai Church. As we go to other schools & churches in the other parts of this district the same thing will become manifest.

I am already putting in a new school at a place called Waduli to help the Zawkhédé church.

But the question is one of money to supply teachers & houses. The money that may come from home this year will be gone before I know. At Newase two weeks ago I almost told them that I would build them schoolhouses next year. There are quite a company of Mangs there who want very much to send their children to school. But the Mahars will not allow them to come to their church. Consequently a new school building here will double the attendance on the school, and bring in two other castes the Mangs and the Chambhars or shoe makers. In Tamaswadi there has been a school for quite a while & there are Xians there, but now the people in the town demand a school, and that means a separate schoolhouse, where they will come without fear of contamination. There are other places where I can put a school building in the town or the vicinity of the town, which will add to the numbers in the school. So I am in need of funds. I feel that the people of this land ought to give more than they do but it seems impossible to get very much out of them. In my station school there are some 4 or 5 boys who pay a rupee a month fee. They were boys who did not pass the regular examinations and their parents were so anxious to have them come to school that they agreed to give 1 rupee a month toward their support. I hope that this will be an entering wedge whereby I can demand fees for boys who ~~are not~~ wish to come to the Wadale school. I have thought of the following plan. The examination for admission I make very strict, and I intend soon to have it a rule that boys who pass satisfactorily are to be the only ones to be supported in full. All others must pay fees. In this way the support of eight boys can be made to appear as a scholarship given as a reward for merit, and not something which any body can get.

This Wadale District has advanced now, so that Christians and even some not Christians are very anxious to have their children study, & are willing to pay for the privilege. And yet, after all this, I must say that expenditures will necessarily increase if we enlarge our work, and the bulk of our expenditures must be met by money from home.

Now, our Wadale schools. We mean to make them as thorough as possible and for that purpose we have to get teachers that can do the work satisfactorily, That means increased Expenditure and the money received as fees will not help us ~~settle~~ in paying for the teachers because that fee & more is required to support the boy that brings the fee. So you may expect me to send you largely increased Estimates next year. My only trouble is that the brethren are afraid to ask for much of an increase, and so only grant small sums that may be asked.

While here I have had a talk with Mr Taylor of the S.P.G. He has changed his tactics in the last few years. Formerly he would baptise at sight. Now he says that there ought to be 2 years probation before baptism. This year 350 of their Xns have been excommunicated. Taylor says that he does not want new territory now, but the towns already belonging to them must be improved & taught.

I think we shall be able to keep the peace better than my father & Mr Taylor used to. The pastors here say that Taylor would go a long way out of his direct road to avoid meeting my father.

The trouble now is that they have a difficulty in keeping their villages. From unworthy motives some wish to change, because they have been severely dealt with. Some also remember that the American Mission was their first love and so they wish to transfer allegiance. Some of our Xians are also fickle, especially & mostly those who have been associated with the S.P.G. in previous times. But I am convinced that there are not very many of these. Our Xians also need teaching, & constant watchfulness, and my aim is to see how our teachers can be made more & more ~~a [illegible]~~ teachers & examples of spiritual truths as well as of arithmetic & reading.

Both my wife & myself are better since the cold weather began and we hope that further tent life will materially help our health. Please remember us both to Mr Clark.

Believe me
Yours sincerely
Henry Fairbank

P.S. I will write Mr Bartlett as soon as possible

Ahmednagar, Dec. 12, 1888,
Rec'd Jan. 21, '89.
Ans'd

In tents.
Tisgaw 5th February 1889
Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir

Our season for touring is almost over, and while my memory of it is still fresh I must write you about our experiences. First, however, let me speak of one or two things that you in recent letters have spoken of.

We both have been very grateful for assistance rendered to our station school. But the Rs 100 announced in one of your recent letters to relieve me of embarrassment was not asked for the station school building, nor was it asked to relieve me of embarrassment, but for the support of boarding pupils. The station school building is entirely free from debt or embarrassment of any kind. But we have very much wanted to enlarge our station school by increasing the number of boarding pupils. For that purpose Rs 100 additional to the 300 already granted in the regular estimates were asked for. We are now waiting anxiously to know if the preferred contingents will be granted. We hope & pray that they will, and that right speedily. This morning I went to the town of Lawkhede. There the town people showed me a place where the Christian children & their non children could go in common. I told them I was very much pleased that they offered this place, but that I was helpless at present having no funds wherewith to build. In Awhané our last camping place there is a large Xn community, there were 7 persons baptized there last Sunday. That practically makes the Maharwada a Xn Maharwada, or rather I would say a Xn wada. Wada means dwelling place, they are a very intelligent people and full of enthusiasm in their Christianity "But what can we do without a master to teach our children" they say. A few months ago as there were only three children in school I removed their teacher to Tisgaon. Now they say that they will give me 20 children or so — some of them are very young; but I think their plea is a very just one. The whole work there has been done by teachers, and Awhane is a striking example of the effect of a Xn school. But to provide a teacher for that place means money. Near Rastapur Chande is a town called Rastapur. There will some 15 or 16 children gather there, if I can give them a school teacher. I want very much to give them a teacher because the town is only 4 miles distant from Wadale, and very easy for me to reach.

Putting in a school there means the Christianizing of that Mahar wada in a very few years. I was very much interested to hear what an old gosavi at Rastapur had to say about the school and about becoming Christians. He was lame & partially blind, and when asked if he did not wish to become a Christian, replied "How could I get anything to eat if I gave up my begging!" He added however that he was heartily in sympathy with the school. "Wherever there is a Christian school" he said "the people are steady and influential - and I want very much to have my own town possess the advantages of a school."

Another letter from you lamented the small increase in church membership during the year 1887. In my own district, 1888 was worse than 1887, as far as figures are concerned. But 1889 will show a great increase in church membership. Already 41 persons have been added to the church ~~membership~~, and there are many inquirers that will come out during the remainder of the year. I shall not be surprised to see an increase of 75 during the year. The persons who have come out have joined the churches at Dedgaw & Chande. We were at the town of Deogaw the first week in January. That town has been worked since my father first came to India, some 41 years ago. Some years ago one man & his wife were baptized, and then again excommunicated for marrying a child in the Hindoo way. But ~~the day~~ while we were there 5 men & 6 women besides several children were baptized. They came & gave me their gods, and seemed very hearty in their acceptance of Christ. The immediate cause of their coming out was the fact that 3 of the children in the Deogaw school had been taken to Wadale as boarding scholars. They felt that those children were now destined to be thoroughly Christianized and would leave them far behind unless they became Christians too. One of the 3 boys from Deogaw had been offered up in his childhood to a god. The reason was that none of the boys who had been born in that family previously had lived. So the father vowed that if he had another son he would offer him to the service of the god. Before that ~~that~~ boy became old enough to understand & had learned enough in the school to show him the folly of Hindooism he used to go around in the village begging by reason of his being consecrated to the service of a god. But after being for some time in school he gave up all of that, and without doubt he will shortly join the church. There were 11 persons in Dedgaw who became communicants. In Bhende 2 miles to the North there were six more, and in Dedgaw itself there 10 were 5 women. All these came out the 9 first week in January. Then last week at Awhane & Amarapur there were 8 nine persons who joined the church on confession, making a total of 30 for the Dedgaw church. At Amarapur there are others who will come out before the year is out. At Amarapur there is a woman whose home is in Umraoti some 300 miles to the North. She has a well-to-do father there, and a husband, But a wicked man from a town near Amarapur induced her to leave her home & run away with him. When once she got down to this region he cast her off. She drifted around till she settled in Amarapur, and has lived a sinful life till within a few months. Within a few months a baby was born to her and that seemed to soften her heart. The other day when we were at A.

she came to Mrs Fairbank & with tears in her eyes begged to be taken into the church. I have almost felt sorry since then that we did not admit her to full church membership, Her case seemed so peculiar, & in her lonely condition she seemed liable to so many temptations that we decided only to baptize her & wait a few months before receiving her to full membership.

There was one pleasing thing that occurred at Amarapur. 2 years ago a man by the name of Nimbaji was admitted to the church. This year his wife & 5 children were also baptized. We went to his house & had a little dinner served us, and the whole family seemed very happy.

"At Chande which has also been one of our stopping places 11 people were admitted to the church, 5 men & 6 women. At Kawathe' 2 miles from there, there are 2 or 3 others who are ready to come out. In connection with the Panchegaon church there are some who will come out before the year is out". So as I said previously there is every reason to think that there will be an increase

during 1889
of about 75 in the membership of the churches in the Wadale District.

There are two places in this District that are reckoned hard & rightly reckoned so. They are Tisgaw where we are now camped, and Newase 10 miles to the North of Wadale. In Newase Xn work has very little to show as the results of 40 years labor. The people living are very proud & peculiarly attached to their Hindoo traditions. There are 2 Newases, one on each side of the river & the great need in both of those towns is ~~an~~ [illegible] ~~of~~ good school buildings. I have been looking around in further Newase for a building lot in the town & have found a good place, that I can secure. I shall have to decide very soon, whether I can buy that lot or not, and so am anxiously waiting for some money to turn up. The other town that has been hard to reach is Tisgaw. There are some Xns here, but the great majority of the people are untouched. A lack here is want of accommodation. This morning I went & saw a nice lot situated in the town near by, ~~and~~ a place that can be secured. I hope you dont think, Dr Clark, that all my purpose in life is to beg, but this is a great and growing district. People are every year becoming more amenable to Xn influences, and respond heartily to all efforts made in their behalf. It is a pleasure to work among them & feel that the work is growing. But growing work demands more expense and that is why my letters are full of requests. In May this year I think I shall ask for a number of appropriations that I did not ask for last May. I hope they will be granted at once.

Mrs Fairbank & myself are both better than we were 3 mos. ago, and we trust that Kodai Kanal will fully re-~~fresh~~store us.

There is one more point that I wish to speak of before I close. That is that out of 41 additions to the church this year 25 were women. The women are being reached more than ever before. This is a very encouraging sign, and we are trying to make the educated women in the District more faithful in their work.

With kind regards to Mrs Clark & yourself from us both, I am

Yours sincerely
Henry Fairbank

Tiegan, Feb. 5, 1889,
Rec'd Mar. 11.

P.O. Address
Ahmednagar India
30th Aug. 1889

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.

Dear Sir

We have been back to our work now 1½ mos., and feel as if we had never been away at all.

There was a great deal of sickness among our people when we first came back. All the boys in school seemed to have dysentery and 2 of the teachers were sick with fever, so that the other two had to do the work of four. But there is not much sickness now and for this we are grateful.

In connection with this matter of sickness I must say what we have been wanting very much lately, namely an apothecary or compounder of some sort. There is one of my men in Rahuri studying with Dr Ballantine; indeed, he is the compounder in his dispensary. He will be available in a year or two I hope. When he comes he will need a house to live in, and another building for his medicine & office. ~~I shall make a plea for that some day.~~

I have never named this as one of of our needs.

There is one ~~need~~ thing in my mind which we ~~both~~ desire most earnestly. ~~and that~~ is a pastor here. There is quite a large Christian community here now, especially when the schools are in session, and Sunday School in the morning, and a preaching service in the afternoon are to be kept up. These ~~two~~ services on Sunday are a great tax upon me because I have to take time for preparation. A pastor here would be an inestimable boon. We intend to have a church formed here as soon after the October meetings as possible.

These two things, the care of the sick, and the care of the services on Sunday are a heavy burden on me, in addition to the miscellaneous work during the week.

Besides, we are frequently away, especially during the ~~rainy~~ cold season; and a good man here to look after the stuff would be very helpful.

I have ~~been looking~~ quite carefully over my mission accounts ~~lately~~; and am burdened with the ~~thought~~ of retrenchment. The work is growing in many directions, and yet I must cut down in my expenses. It is very hard, and very discouraging to think of. I suppose you at the Rooms are burdened too with lack of funds, and I must not grumble too much. Yet I cannot help showing some of my feelings. I have waited longingly for the contingent (prepaid contingent) and when your last letter came saying that there was no hope of it, it was disheartening indeed. The Missionary Herald every month makes is full doleful with the reports of decreased contributions. Still I have tried to be led of Providence, and I have hope that the future will not be as dark as it looks.

There are some few things that may interest you, and I will mention them. I have started a candidates' class for the boys & girls here in Wadala of those who wish to join the church. There are over 30 in regular attendance. I hope that they may all be truly born again, and become willing & able servants of Christ. There is

Narayanwadi, a town about 3 miles to the N.W. there are quite a number of people desiring to join the Church. Bhikaji, one of our Bible Readers goes there to instruct them, and Pastor Sayaji also visits them; so they will unite with the Panchegaon Church. They will come out before the end of the year.

School & other Christian work in the District is progressing quietly and favorably, so we think there is nothing special to report.

Mrs Fairbank wishes me to send her kindest remembrances to Mrs Clarke & yourself. We both feel much better than a year ago, & are thankful for our trip to the Palanis.

I am

Yours most sincerely

Henry Fairbank

Ahmednagar, Aug. 20 - 1889

Rec'd Sept. 30

Ack'd Oct 17.

Fairbank, Mrs. Ruby E.

Mahableshwar. India
March 28. /83.
234.

My dear Dr. Clark,

Your kind letter of Feb. 2 reached us a little more than a week ago. We feel it a great privilege to hear from you and thank you heartily for your kind interest in us and our work here. I wish I could tell you how pleasantly the way has opened before us, how kind all the friends have been and what a "goodly" place ~~India~~ has seemed to us thus far. I felt sure, before leaving America, that a missionary's life was a happy one, and I have found it true. It was very kindly planned for me to be with my father and mother in Sholapur for the first three months. Then Miss Fairbank and I went to Nagar, where it was thought we would have better opportunities for studying the language and at the same time we would be gaining a knowledge of the School and of the girls themselves, which would help us when we were ready to take up the work ourselves. Dr. and Mrs. Bissell were exceedingly kind to us and we had a delightful home with them. The third week in February we came up here to our Hill Station, to be with Mrs. Gates. In this way we have quite escaped the hot weather on the plains for this first year, and hope the result will be an extra amount of strength for the work which lies before us. We feel very grateful for our good health thus far. There are no trials about which to tell you. Only when the desire to acquire the language *at once* so that we may engage in real missionary work, and not have this long waiting time, only then do we feel we have any trials to bear. I had hoped to be helped in a measure by my former knowledge of the language, but not one sound or word has seemed familiar to me. I am glad to report that Miss Fairbank has advanced much more rapidly than I; so when we take up our school duties she will be able to supply this lack on my part and I will try to do more in some other direction. We found great pleasure in helping in a very small way, before leaving Nagar. Mrs. Bissell gave us a sewing class to direct; each Sabbath morning the Infant Class of fifty little boys and girls were put into our charge, and for the last six weeks we each took a geography class in the school. These are very small beginnings but if they are a foretaste of what we may hope to enjoy in the future, we thank the Lord for giving us the privilege of doing just this work for Him. We like the mission and the missionaries, and already feel a personal interest in all that pertains to it and to them. We intend to take our first examination during the Mission Meeting in May, and on our return to Nagar in June, will try to aid Mrs. Bissell in the School as far as we are able. But we prefer not to take charge ourselves until October, as we wish to know more about the workings of the School, and also have our time more free for study. Our hearts are in the work and we pray most earnestly that God's blessing may rest upon all that He may permit us to do for Him; but we feel very weak in ourselves, and ask for special prayer in our behalf.

With kindest remembrances for yourself and the members of your family.

Believe me

Very truly yours

Ruby E. Harding.

Mahabalishwar, March 28/1883.

Rec'd Apr. 30. Ackd do

Ahmednagar.
(Wadale.) India.
Nov. 5. /84.

My dear Dr. Clark;

Thank you for your letter of Sept. 15th just received. We are always glad to get your letters, but sorry this time that you found it necessary to speak to us about something which troubled you in connection with the Mission work in our hands.

Katie has written you fully, so I do not need to repeat; but I cannot understand how the friends at home got the impression that it was a "Home" we were wishing to build, for that was farthest from our thoughts. It was simply a small house of two rooms which would always be ready for sick girls in our school and which we are greatly in need of. We consulted with Dr. and Mrs. Bissell and they said if we could get funds from home they were sure the mission would approve of our building such a house.

Mahabaleshwar, March 28/)1883

The sum required would be $250.00
or Rs 600. I wrote at once to my
friends in P'keepsie and in a few months
received from the Presn Sunday School
there, a draft for $50.00 which I have
now in my hands. I did not write
to Wellesley College about it, for I knew
they supported Miss Chandler and it was
all they were able to do. Katie wrote
to Bradford Academy and they have
promised money for it; but we did
not understand that they were sending
us what would otherwise have gone
into the general fund of the Board, and
feel very sorry if it is so. We think
that such a house is needed for the
well being of the girls, and hope to
secure it. But we wish to go about
it in the right way, and if our way
has not been right, we are very sorry.
We cannot tell you, Dr. Clark, how
sorry we are ~~that~~ we have given you
any trouble.

What I wrote you more than a year
ago is still true, that I am glad and

happy in my work & that I thank God every day that He has given me just this work to do. Sometimes the burden of responsibility and of training these souls for Christ is overwhelming, but we know we do not have to bear the burden alone. When we have dreaded the future the most, God has given us the more abundantly of His grace and strength. But, Dr. Clark, what will you think of me, if I first write how pleasant it has been to work with Katie and how much I have enjoyed the past school year, and then ask that some one come to take my place, for I am going to run away from it all? From letters you have written my father and Dr. Clark I know that you have learned of the promise I have given Henry Fairbank, and how in keeping that promise I must sooner or later give up this special kind of miss'y work here. For another year I hope to be free to devote all my time and strength to the school: but as that time is not very far in the future, I feel I ought now to ask that some one else be sent out to take my place in the work. I wish I knew of some one whom I could suggest to you, but I know of no one. My daily prayer is that God will raise up some one who can come out here to be with Katie. The burden is too heavy for one to carry alone. I am sure it would result in a breaking down of health very soon. I need not tell you it will be very hard for me to leave unless some one can be found to help Katie. — We were very glad for the items of news you gave us about the members of your family. How delighted we should have been if you and Mary could have given us a call on your way home. With loving remembrances for them all, and assuring you that we out here never forget to pray for you

Believe me as ever

one of your missy daughters

Ruby E. Harding.

Wadale, Nov. 5, 1884.

Rec'd Dec. 6.

Ahmednagar. India.
Oct. 19. 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark.

As my husband is writing to you this evening, I tell him I think I will write you too, as it has been a very long time since I have sent you a letter, & then too, I belong to you now more than I did before, don't I?

I left the school work at the beginning of the hot season last spring and was for four months & a half at Kodi Kanal So. India. It was a perfect rest & change for me so that I came back a new girl & with most delightful memories of my visit to the Madura Mission. My "minister" reached Sholapur the last day of August & we had a quiet wedding there Sept. 16th. It has seemed strange to come back to Ahmednagar, & be no longer connected with the school. But I know there is a great deal for a lady to do in Vadala & I shall not lay aside missionary work in getting married, shall I?

We are keeping house in Nagar now, & plan to be here until the close of the Mission meetings. Then we go out to Vadale to live, & we think it is going to be splendid out there. How I wish it was near enough for you & Mrs. Clark to come & make us a visit! I am sure I do not need to tell you that I am just as happy as I can be, & think I have the very best husband in all the world!

Please give my love to Mrs. Clark & with love from us both for yourself,

Believe me

Sincerely yours.

Ruby E. Fairbank.

Ahmednagar, Oct. 19, '86.
Rec'd Nov. 22.

Fairbank, Rev. Sam'l B. D.D.

237

Ahmednagar 18 Oct. 1880

Rev. N.G. Clark D.D.
Sec. A.B.C.F.M. Dear Bro.

I am sorry to find that I should have attended to a matter of business respecting my three little girls now at Auburndale Mass. As they went with Br Harding I did not think it necessary for me to make an application for an allowance for them, though it now appears by a letter from my daughter Katie who is ~~[illegible]~~ in charge of them that I should have made the application. I do not know but it should be made through Br Ward. If it should be, will you kindly ask him to regard this letter as directed to him.

I have a small sum in charge of my bro James C.F. of Concord Morgan Co Illinois, that has yielded an interest of $350 yearly which has been used by my older children & I hope he will be able to to continue to send them the same amount yearly, though I think the rates of interest have fallen so much of late years that to make up the $350 he must have supplemented the amount obtained, from his own pocket. Henry rec.. sufficient income from a foundation at Amherst to pay his tuition & other dues to the College, & he has rec'd $40 ~~fr~~ as "Greek Prize" which has helped him to get on. I sent my children $100 last year, but have not been able to send them any thing this year. Times are getting easier with us since the rain we had in September & I hope our famine years have come to an end. For three years we have endured the strain which often seemed unendurable. This year also the rainy season crops have failed except in a strip 6 or 8 miles wide across it, in this Zilla of Ahmedn. But the promise is for an abundant winter crop. If the Lord grants us another rain of two inches & witholds the frost, there will be an abundant crop in Jan. & Feb. 1881 is the Jubilee year of this Nagar Mission & may it indeed prove the end of our famine.

Henry, Grace & Edward received allowances from the Board last year, I think @ $100 each. Neither of them has however written about having recd. anything this year. Anna was the treasurer, but on her marriage she wrote to me that it was arranged that Henry should take care of the money. She is a good financier & I hope he will prove to be so. But he is inexperienced & may not have made such application as may be especially necessary to the Board. I mean for himself Grace & Edward. If not you will allow me hereby to do it.

There are now also Lizzie, Rose and Mary - who arrived in Boston with the Hardings in May. I hope the Board will be able to allow them, all six, at the rate of at least $100 each - Katie has now no allowance from the Board, but she is taking the place of a mother to the little ones. She had the offer of the payment of her expenses while she should spend this school year at Wellesley - But she thought her duty to her little sisters forbid her accepting it, though she had been desirous of studying a year at W. My personal allowance is now Rs 80 a month & though I live very economically I cannot save very much to send to my children. Mrs Walker's charges for board are exceedingly moderate or it wd. be necessary for me to send them something, even this year. I had however before learned through Katie what their board would be & thought their necessities would be met by the interest from my brother above referred to & the allowance from the Am. Board. A letter from Katie, rec'd by this last mail, tells me that she has rec'd nothing from the Board for them & asks what she is to do, that she should have been in trouble had not Mrs Walker waited all this time for what was due from her. I will write to her to call on you & Mr Ward at the Mission rooms & ask your instructions as to what she should do to secure the needed aid from the Board - Will you kindly arrange that the allowances from the Board for five of the children, viz Grace, Edward, Lizzie, Rose & Mary, shall be paid to Katie - I will write to Henry that he should ask for his allowance only from you.

You have written & others have written about my visiting America - It does not seem to me necessary. I have to use the help of two or three hours daily exercise in the open air; but with that help, have fair health. It is now 34 years since I first reached this city of Ahmednagar - I first saw it about the middle of Oct 1846 from the Kāregāw Hill. It looked very inviting, spread out on this plain, half hidden among its shade trees & surrounded by green fields, - for these ~~closing~~ three fall months of the year beautifully green - I thought I would not ask a pleasanter place for mission work & I think so still - It will probably be best that I go to a health station for a part of 1881 & if my daughter, Mrs Smith of the Jaffna Mission S. go there to the Palani Hills I S. prefer to go when she is there, Besides the Palanis are as much better than Mahab. as Mahabaleshwar is better than Nagar - I have made my home at Wadale for some months & hope to continue to do so. W. is central to my field. There is no one to take charge of my field now. Indeed as Dr R. A. Hume must take a charge & Dr Smith has not yet possession Marathi, & Dr Ballantine can give only 2/3 of his time to the mission work, we in this Nagar region shall be short handed for the next six months. Excuse my not taking time to copy this. I hope you will make it all out. Yours in Christ

S. B. Fairbank

Rec'd Dec. 4.

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Waḍāḷē, Ahmednagar Wn India
18 Jan 1881

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Sec'y A.B.C.F.M.

Dear Sir; You will have thought me negligent in respect to reporting the progress of the work that is in my charge. Had there been anything startling or even anything special to report, I should doubtless have found time to tell you about it. But I have been unusually busy for the last six months & excepting a weekly letter to my children in America, my communications have largely waited for a convenient time.

You have heard something of the distress resulting from the famines of the last three years in this region; but you could understand the universal distress from want and debt and in the struggle to survive, only by partaking of it as we have. In the end of 1879 Government passed an act intended to give relief to the Cultivating Classes in this region. It was made applicable to the four Zillās (states) of Poona, Ahmednagar, Satara and Sholāpūr. A principal part of the Act provided for the appointment of "Conciliators" who were

Rec'd [illegible]. 4.

empowered to settle such cases of debt in which Agriculturists were parties as shd. be brought before them, without the technicalities and great expenses of the Civil Courts. On the petition of one of the parties, the Conciliator ~~should~~ summons the other & uses his best endeavors to lead them to come to and sign an agreement which, after a month's delay to allow either to withdraw from it, becomes binding as a ~~decision~~ decree in the regular courts. In case the parties do not agree but will allow of arbitration, the Conciliator arranges for that. Where his efforts to settle the case are unavailing the Conciliator gives the petitioner a certificate that allows him to take the case to civil court. Without such a certificate the courts are not allowed to adjudicate on cases in which one party is an agriculturist.

On the passing of this act I was requested by Government to undertake the duties of a Conciliator in this Tālūk (County) of Newāsé and I reluctantly agreed to do so, for a time, till it should appear whether or not I could command sufficient leisure to do the work.

The act was brought into effect in this county on the first of July, & I performed the duties of a conciliator till the end of the year. At first I hoped the work would require less time as it would as I became habituated to it. But the number of cases brought to me in Decr. was so large that efforts for settlement, the writing papers & agreements &c. consumed nearly half of my time & at the end of the year I resigned the appointment, agreeing howr. to attend to cases which I had registered but had not acted on. There are several of them still in hand, on account of the dilatory habits of this people.

I have been disappointed in regard to the results. In perhaps a tenth of the cases I could rejoice over the results. But in most of these, I think some private arrangement would probably have been made without recourse to the courts, even though the parties had not come before me. The work has brought me into intimate relations with a great many money-lenders & agriculturists, with whom I should otherwise have had no special acquaintance, & it is pleasant to know that what has been done has met the popular approval & has honored Christianity - Strict justice, honor, honesty & impartiality, are not commonly found among Hindus, and when found are highly prized.

Now that I have given up the regular work of a daysman between debtor & creditor, I will try and do more to reconcile them both to God. And I will try & be more faithful as to my communications to you & your associates at "the Rooms". Sometimes when the thought comes that on some subject you need the results of personal experience in India or the testimony of an eye-witness, it also comes to mind that you can avail yourselves of the very competent services of Br Hazen and Br Harding. And soon you are to have another of us in the person of Br Park. And the ladies seem quite willing enough to avail themselves of the services of the helpmeets of these brethren - But I find there are none in America more eager for news from us than these, our deputies, who are supposed to be on the whole sufficiently well posted to give the information that is needed.

In your last letter to Dr Bissell, you raise the question of the comparative value of work in Bombay and in the Dakhan, the comparative cost being admitted as a part of the problem. In making out our estimates of late years some of us have thought that this question should be fully considered, & have been blamed for expressing opinions on the subject. At our last May meeting, we agreed to arrange the estimates, so that the expenses required by work in Bombay and vicinity should be presented by itself; that is, so separated from the rest, that it should be fairly understood by the Prudential Committee. If the income of the Am. Board were thoroughly elastic & would allow of entering on & carrying on every important work, the case wd. be different from the one before us. As it is, the amount that can be appropriated for Western India is a sum that must not exceed an amount that is mainly a fixed & known quantity. And on that account it does not seem to me wise to undertake new & expensive operations. If we were prospecting, the case would be different. But here in the Dakhan, especially in the Ahmednagar Zillā,

& to a good extent in the Sholāpūr Zillā, there are many pressing into the Churches under our care who are eager to profess Christianity but who cannot read & know only the elements of our faith. They must have instruction. We must provide them with teachers & for the present, in our environment ~~with~~ by the S.P.G. Mission & the Roman Cath. Mission, we must mostly support these teachers. ~~They~~ the converts are from classes that are parasitic on the agricultural population, ~~who~~ and have always been receivers rather than givers, & they learn to give freely only as they grow in the knowledge & in grace.

(Every year I am in sore need of 3 or 4 additional teachers. And the supply is insufficient. Just now ~~I am~~ my field is sadly in need of seven teachers more than I can supply. And had I the means of supporting them I know of but one good unemployed candidate for a teacher's place. There is a second, but he was in the employ of the S.P.G. as long as he could endure it, & would be there still had he not declined to take a wife, being married by the S.P.G. missionaries. According to our agreement with the S.P.G. to decline the services of one who was in their employ for at least a year after his leaving them, we cannot supply this Pitkarane till next Sept.r Dr Ballantine, in the Rāhūri field, also needs several additional teachers. Ten, & perhaps a dozen, teachers ~~here~~ could be provided for us with the allowance given to Tottabhāī in Bombay. T. is an admirable man, and there should be a good, a powerful, mission for the Mussalmans of Bombay. But it is new work for us, & we have already more on our hands than we can do properly. Then why cripple this work & starve (spiritually) the great numbers who, as babes in Xt, look to us for their supply of the sincere milk of the word, that we may inaugurate a new & confessedly difficult & expensive work for the Mahammadans of Bombay? It seems to me much like the course pursued by Miss Sisson of the Madura Mission, leaving the multitudes of eager listeners & even inquirers in Madura, whose language she used freely; & going to a people as yet careless of Xy, whose language she must learn; & going without the munitions for her expected spiritual warfare. She thought she was led by faith. It seems to me she was led by a fancy into a grave mistake & the Lord did not allow her new work ~~there~~ to prosper.

If we could finish our work in some ~~part~~ part of this District & go on to new work, it were different. But this work is only in its beginning. The total of our church membership looks as if the churches were ready to be self sustaining. But look at our statistics. The Pānchegāon church has now 64 communicants, but they reside in 14 different villages, that are widely scattered. The Shingawē Tākāī church has now 84 communicants, but they live in ten different villages, of which ~~one~~ Isgāw is 18 miles to the E. of the pastor's house & the chapel, & ~~another~~ Dhangarwādī is 6 miles to the N.W. of them. Zāwkhed & Hiwarē, from which the late accessions have come, are respectively 13 & 12 miles away from the chapel & are 8 miles distant from each other. The common interests of those living so far away from each other, are mostly comprised in their union with Christ & in their all having an ~~common~~ interest in the Pastor & the Missionary & those Bible readers who have been the means, in God's hands, of their salvation. When each of those villages, or at least 2 or 3 adjacent villages, shall fill a church, we may speak of our work for them as done, & look to them to sustain their religious & educational institutions. You may think this is putting the case too strongly, but it is no stronger than you all put it, when your theme is Home Missions, & our Home missions in N. Eng. Anyone, who at all takes in the situation, will see that we have a great work before us, in providing teachers & pastors for this wide-spread Christian community & in all that pertains to its general guidance & culture. When the Lord raises up those (like Sauqua of the Karens) who will take the work out of our hands, we will praise His name. He will raise them up; but He has not done it as yet. For this work we are sadly incompetent & the forces & munitions at our command, are sadly insufficient. Were I the autocrat, I would as far as possible work this field thoroughly. I would locate one missionary in Bombay & he should be the one best fitted of our number for editorial work. He should have in hand a good secular agent & should have the help of a first rate Native Editor. If his wife could do it, I would help her in sustaining a first class school for boys & girls. The Pastor of the Church should be the best man to head for the place, ~~to head~~ - There are plenty of other missionaries in Bombay for other kinds of work. The Ch. Miss'y Soc. has had a department for the Mussalmans for years. There are a great many native as well as European doctors in Bombay & plenty of dispensaries. There are plenty of institutions for higher education. It would cost lakhs of rupees for us to rear up & sustain another. Then the cost of educational arrangements, all told, will not be half so great, per scholar, in Nagar as in Bombay. The interest of the money that was proposed to be asked for buildings in Bombay, which ~~that~~, in the first place at least, would all be required for the residence & dispensary of Miss Norris, would suffice for all the allowances required by her & her medical work in Sholāpūr. And in Sholāpūr her work would supply a felt need & be most helpful to the Mission. Perhaps I should learn to think it has one or both of these recommendations in Bombay, were my visits ~~stay~~ there more protracted.

I would willingly have excused myself from making the above suggestions, but making them seemed to me a duty

I have lived at Wadale through the past year. W. is central to the villages in which the Native agents under my care are located.

"The supply of food & its prices affect our work so intimately that I must express my intense thankfulness that an abundant Winter harvest is now ripening & prices are only a half of what they were during the years of scarcity & up to the middle of September in 1880. In this vicinity only about two inches, in the most favored spots, fell before the 10th of Sept. So we had no harvest ~~from~~ of the rainy (so called) season crops. But during 18 days beginning with the 10th of Sept. we received 14 inches of rain. Then the whole valley was sown with sorghum, gram, wheat and oil seed. I never before saw the country so covered with corn as it is today. Another rain fell in Nov. And another, very partially in stripes, fell in Dec. The crops that rec'd the Dec. rain are much better than the rest, which is poor in quality. But the crops cover such an unprecedented breadth of ground that the aggregate produce must prove unusually large."

During the famine the time and thoughts of the people were given so exclusively to securing sufficient food that they seemed to have no time for religion or for education. Now that the care of the body takes less time the welfare of the soul may receive more attention

The attendance at school has already increased and the children come more regularly. And when the time for watching the crops to prevent tramps and birds from pilfering them shall have passed & the grain shall have been threshed some older children who are now required by their parents for such work, will also attend our schools. There are proportionally more girls in the schools than there used to be. Some girls are studying in nearly every school

I am pleased with the working of my Manual Labor School here at Wadāle. A half dozen of the boys earn something for their support by working half of each day. Their progress in study has been satisfactory & they are gaining habits of industry as well as some practical knowledge of farming and gardening that will be of use to them in future life.

I have still had the nominal charge of the Station school at Ahmednagar. but have been able to attend to its monetary affairs, only.

There is leſs need of superintendence, because Shetibā, the teacher is eminently fitted for his place & has been uniformly successful for many in so training his scholars that they become well versed in the subjects which he teaches. The study of English to some extent has been introduced into the school & is taught by another teacher who speaks English. Boys coming from village schools usually study a year in this school before entering the Normal School of the C.V.E.S. —

All five of the churches in the district that is under my charge continue to receive grants-in-aid from the mission.

Rev Jayarām Barbé The pastor of the Shingawé-Tukāī church left it at the beginning of 1879, and was employed by Mr. Taylor S.P.G. through that year. He was not employed by the S.P.G. Society because of the year rule. He came back at the end of the year saying that he had had enough of ritualism, that it bore bad fruit & he would prefer sincerity and purity though he could have only half as large pay as the S.P.G. offered him. His church was very desirous he should again become its pastor & sent a letter to the Miſsion asking if the Miſs would continue its grant-in-aid if they reinstated him in his pastorate. In view of the spirit he manifested and the desire of the church, the Mission agreed to treat him & the church with him for its pastor, as if no unpleasantness had occurred and in Feb. he again became the pastor of that church.

But when *the Aikya* assembled in Octr. it reviewed what had been done & thinking he should receive some punishment for his escapade, it forbid him to baptize or preside at the Lords' Supper for a year! although recommending that in other things he should perform the duties of pastor. The mission did not learn of this action by the Aikya till after that body had closed its sessions & dispersed. I told such of the members as I met that their action seemed to me like that of a doctor who took no notice of his patient while he was sick, but nine months after his recovery dosed him tremendously for the disease of which he had been cured.

So I have to be his associate pastor this year & administer the sacraments for him. There has been much interest in Py among

Converts among the women

the Mahārs of several villages in the Eastern part of his large parish. The nearest of them is nine miles from his home. 26 of these inquirers, belonging to Zawkhed and Hiware, were received to church membership in 1880, and more from other villages are likely soon to be received. From Shingawe-Keshaw, a village only 4 miles from the centre 10 Māngs were rec'd to its membership, so that the number of its communicants was increased last year from 48 to 84.

The villages in which there is now so much interest are so far from Shingawe-Tukāi, the original centre, that it will probably be best for them to join in forming a new church there.

"About a month ago I baptized six women in Hiware whose husbands had joined the church six months before. The occasion was so interesting to me that I will tell the story of it. It had been arranged, by the native pastor Rev. [illegible], to baptize these women in their own village but we were not expected on the day we went there. They were burdened with family cares, as Martha was when the Savior was her guest. The millet from which they had to prepare that evening's bread for their families and their guests, was still in the ear. They beat out the grain, and winnowed and ground it, and then made the meal into unleavened cakes and baked them. So it was after nine o'clock in the evening before they were ready to attend the meeting. The village is decidedly rural + retired + very likely the women had never conversed with a "Sāhib" before. They were much abashed and drew their cloths which covered their heads closely over their faces. I noticed that two of them hesitated to come into the room where we were to hold the meeting, + that they required considerable whispered persuasion before they were brought in. The pastor made the first address and then Deacon Vithoba spoke. They skilfully adapted themselves to the situation and as the women grew more + more interested they forgot to hold their cloths over their faces, their eager eyes shone with feeling, + after I had spoken they felt at home with me also + they showed no hesitation as they uncovered their heads to be baptized. It was a long meeting. I know not how long, but I feel sure that it made an ineffaceable impression on the hearts, + minds too, of those women that will help them in all their future."

I wish I could ~~give~~ send them a school teacher. He ~~The teacher~~ would instruct the parents as well as their children, But as I said above, my teachers are all located, and cannot be spared from the villages where they are now employed.

There is also considerable interest in the Newāsā church, which had been diminished by the defection of Krishna of Toke to the S.P.G. & by his influence - Last Sunday I baptized eight men belonging to the two Newāsās & there are other candidates in Bhālgāw, a village six miles to the North, whom the church has approved & who would have been received with the others, had notice of the meeting reached them.

The desire for self-support is growing among these Christians and I shall be greatly disappointed if the Shingawe Church does not take a long stride toward it, in connection with this harvest. Those of them who have farms, are willing to do much more than they have done - But they became involved in debt during the years of famine as did almost all farmers, & they are pressed under that load. Their crops this year will give

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them food, but grain & all produce, is so cheap that they can ~~gain~~ give very little money toward the payment of their debts.

I am obliged to you for arranging that my three little chicks, last sent, should have an allowance, & that you sent it to Katie & let me know of it in this letter of Dr Bissell's.

Hoping that this year for yourself & family & for the Board may be a year of blessing from the right hand of the Most High

I am yours respectfully
S. B. Fairbank

Wadale. Jan. 18. 1881.
Rec'd Feb. 22. 1881

pp 5-10 Poverty & the Dakkan

Ahmednagar 3 Feb. 1881.

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.
Sec'y A.B.C.F.M. - Dear Sir

We have had another conference with the Bishop of Bombay and the S.P.G. Missionaries. Mr Williams of the Missionaries, is very desirous to annul the agreement we entered into with them two years ago. He longs to burn over the region of our Southern and Western "Fields" from which by the agreement he is debarred - He brought up three cases in which he claimed that Pastor Vamirām and others of our agents living at Rāhūri had "flagrantly broken the contract" - These cases were thoroughly sifted + compared with what he himself did in Sonai, it plainly appearing that they were similar in every particular. Both parties claimed that they had not broken either the letter or the spirit of the rules we had agreed to. Dr Ballantine said that if he or Vamirām had broken the rules it was done unintentionally - The Bishop said that the S.P.G. Society had repudiated the agreement, but in view of the case as now before him, he w^d. abide by his previous promises. One other, (S.P.G. miss.) Mr Ellis spoke in favor of the Rules - The others said nothing - But Mr Williams said that he must take his name from the agreement. He would obey his bishop, but aside from that did not regard himself as bound in the matter. So the matter is to remain settled, till some of them choose to unsettle it. The Xn population around us is getting experience of them + their real principles + practice - So it is not as easy for them to bring large numbers to the baptismal font as it was. They wish ~~new~~ ground new to them but that which we have been cultivating.

"I am cheered by the revived state of several villages in the "parishes" of the Shingavè, Chandè, and Newasè churches. The pastors & mission agents are awake & at work with new zest. Meetings are solemn. Many are asking admission to the Churches. I cannot call it a "revival" in the full American signification of that word. But it seems as if this were to be a year of the right hand of the Most High. With real Spiritual power & growth in sanctification, our churches will not be harmed by the presence & glitter of ritualism. It is only when we are worldly & formal that such things harm us."

On reading your letter respecting the diminution of our number & your effort to send out Mr J. Abbott soon, I think it my duty to say something more with regard to the necessities of the mission as now constituted and now working. Your letter intimates that Mr A. will be located in Bombay. Br Park has urged such a location with the expectation that Br A. would give himself to work among the Musalmans. Br P. has become greatly interested in that opening & wishes to inaugurate as extensive operations for the Musalmans as the Am. Board will allow. He would have missionaries give themselves to work in the Hindustani language, & employ an efficient corps of native agents. Now no one doubts the desirableness & need of such work. But it is a new work for us, equivalent to undertaking a new and a very expensive mission. And I think that the Prudential Committee, before undertaking it, should understand this and count the cost. Unless you ~~think it best to~~ can make large appropriations for it, in addition to those needed for the Marathi work we have on hand, it seems to me unwise to undertake it. There are great numbers of the Musalmans who thoroughly understand the Marathi & the Lord may use His gospel preached in Marathi & taught in Marathi schools &c. for the conversion of Musalmans, He has done so to a small extent. But we are cramped in our ~~more highly~~ well developed Marathi work by the want of missionaries and agents and funds. We economize & wait, while we long to follow close in the steps of Providence opening ways for us in many directions. We hear ~~these~~ calls from many villages "to come over & help us," & we go. But not to stay - not to give them, as they need, line upon line - not to give them, as they need, schools & teachers, that shall build them up in true knowledge & the true life. We fall so far short of meeting the demands for instruction & guidance from those who are already inquirers, that it seems mistaken policy to begin giving our time & strength to those who are not yet inquirers & who are but slightly interested in Xty.

There are several missions working in Bombay - though none too many workers. But, comparatively, Bombay is better manned with true workers than the Dakhan is. In the dispensations of Providence the harvest here is beginning to ripen, while there certainly among the Musalmans, it is still seed time. And altogether our operations there costs nearly quite dou what the same does here - The Church Missionary Soc. have again sent out Mr Deimler as missionary to the Mussalmans in Bombay. He uses the Hindustani language. I mention this not as offering any hindrance to our having a missionary for them also, but to show that they are not left without the Evangel, if we do not labor for them especially.

It is a great pity that our efforts to secure the land, that has been bargained for, for the site of the new house in Byculla, do not as yet secure it. Bro. Ed Hume has faith that we shall get it soon. But the great delay of Government in the matter, is not assuring.

Cases often occur in which it is desirable that you should know the different opinions that are held by the missionaries, and especially on subjects of great importance, we surely ought to state them to you - The favorite plans of one of our number necessarily affect us all & may affect the general work of the mission to such an extent as to call not only for opinions & reasons, but for votes. This incipient mission to the Mussalmans seems to me likely to affect our work as a mission to such a degree, that at least the subject should be thoroughly ventilated before a missionary, coming in our present & expectant reduced state as to numbers, is put into another, and that a new, enterprise - Trusting that yourself & the Prudential Committee will be directed in this matter by the wisdom of the Highest I am Yours faithfully

S B Fairbank

P.S. A week ago after some days of fever, Dwight Bissell was regarded in a critical state. Dr Ballantine came in, as the Govt. physician here was called away, & had medical charge of his case for four days when the crisis was thought to have passed. He is still very weak & needs watchers, but for two days has been free from fever. It has seemed strange to see so vigorous a boy, weak & dependent. S.B.F.

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Wadāle; Ahmednagar, 26 Feb. 1881.

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.
Sec'y A.B.C.F.M., Dear Bro.

Your exceedingly kind letter of 19. Jan. was put into my hands yesterday on my return from Bombay to Ahr. And now that the Lord has brought me safely home again, I will use my first leisure in answering it.

You speak of my daughter Katie's having given up her place as a teacher and the opportunities offered her at Wellesley, to give herself to the care of her sisters. It was not the arrangement I had proposed, though "far better are & indeed the best available for her sisters – "she thought it her duty & ungrudgingly gave up going to Wellesley, though she had long desired to go there & though the way for going was open to her. She wrote me, at the time, her plan for the support of herself & the other dear ones under her care, not however giving the figures with such minutiæ as I needed to judge of its feasibility in reference to the means that would be at her disposal. I knew that Henry's expenses would necessarily be increased by his being at College, & as the interest of the money I had deposited with my brother tended to diminish rather than increase, I felt solicitous with regard to their support, & wrote asking for estimates of expenses &c. But the answers from my children & also from Bro. Harding removed my solicitude. I thought that they understood the matter better than I could, & that they would let me know at once if help was needed. The three years that ended with Dec 1880, were years of very "hard times" here & my finances have not yet become elastic, but on an intimation of need, I should have sent a remittance, trusting to the Lord's blessing my efforts to cancel the obligations thus incurred. But through your friendly scrutiny the intimation came to you, rather than to me, & I am called on only to thank you & the Prudential Committee for your generous arrangement by which I receive a grant for Katie as well as for the younger children; & a grant so large that it "will meet her charges". I am sure that Katie is thoroughly economical & also that she will make it a matter of conscience to ask no more than is really necessary. My own habits are inexpensive & in the "easier times" on which this harvest enables us to enter, I hope to be able to send something every six months for the support of my darlings in America.

When my boy Edward went to America I thought that his poor scholarship (as compared with Henry's) & his characteristics, indicated that he had better not pursue a college Education, but rather seek an education that would fit him for commercial life. But he has waked up & has become an eager and rapidly improving scholar — & is exceedingly desirous for a liberal education. I can only bring his case before the Great Disposer & ask that His kind providences may make it plain. I have so far been able to cast every care respecting the dear children on the Lord, and He has led them in plain & pleasant paths, & allowed me to stay here & work without depressing anxiety on their account. And I will trust Him for the future —

After so long & weary waiting, there is an excellent spot for the Mission House in By, provided and paid for. And as Br. Edw. Hume & Mr Morris, the Architect, thought that the changes I had proposed in the plan for the new house, were for objects that c^d. perhaps be secured by other changes which seemed more feasible than those I had proposed, & asked that I would come to Bombay for consultation. So I left home early Monday morning & reached By ~~[illegible]~~ at 10.30 A.M. of Tuesday. The Architect had altered his first plan, so as to give the third bedroom upstairs that I demanded & also the room for our library that was inadvertently omitted in ~~the~~ his first plan, & to still retain the stairs in the desirable position he had first placed them — I think the plan as now decided on is admirable - supplying all the needed rooms, with such skilful adjustments that every room ~~be~~ will be nicely ventilated & the whole be artistically desirable, while the minimum of expenditure for a thoroughly substantial house will be continually aimed at &, as far as we know how, secured. Excepting ~~wood~~ timber, which is expensive everywhere in India, but comparatively cheaper in Bombay, materials are very expensive in Bby - far more so than they are here in the Dakhan. But Br. Ed. Hume is sure to write you all about the progress of the house.

The news that Br Burnell is mentally sick is most sad, - is a burden that we must carry & leave before the Lord. I must acknowledge that thoughts of it, & of the fall into sin of two Bible Women in 1880, (of Alr. & Jamlgāon) & the critical state of Dwight Bissell's ~~health~~ depress my spirits tonight. We must live by faith in God for all things that affect our work here - These things have been allowed in God's providence & He makes no mistakes.

My going to Bombay this week, hindered me from performing a tour in the parish of the Shingawe Takai Church, in which I should have ~~set apart~~ baptized the several who have been approved by the Cr. of that Church for baptism & admission to the church - I hope to make the tour next week.

I am, Yours thankfully, S. B. Fairbank

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.
Sec. A. B. C. F. M.

Dear Sir, I return to my work at Wadale and vicinity, thankful for the rest and invigoration obtained during three months of vacation. Nine weeks of it were enjoyed on the delightful Palani Hills ~~and~~ My experience this time strengthens my opinion, founded on two previous visits, that Kodaikānal is not excelled as a sanitarium. A little ~~above~~ more than 7000 feet ~~in elevation~~ above sea level, and so situated that it receives, with rare exceptions, one to three inches of rain every month, but very seldom more than eight inches in the wettest month; with a temperature rarely descending to 50° Fahr., or rising above 75°, and usually confined to its daily maximum of 66° and minimum of 60°, so that a fire is desirable every evening in the year; and so the abode of perpetual Spring, It is a paradise for invalids and tired workers. Besides three fourths by one fourth of a mile in extent.

the original grove of large trees & of curious shrubs & creepers & tree ferns, among which are an olive and a Cinnamon, which is 3/4 by 1/4 of a mile in extent, there are patches of Australian Gum trees (Eucalypti) and Acacias introduced within 30 years, but which now cover as much ground as the original grove & are fast increasing - These furnish an abundance of Cheap fuel - The picturesque lake has been stocked with two species of fish that are now obtained in plenty & offer to those fond of boating an inducement additional to the pleasures of rowing or sailing. Twin falls, Glen falls, Silver cascade, Natural Bridge, Lovinge's Stream, Bear's Glen, Fairy parlor, Pillar rocks, Doctor's delight, Neutral Saddle, Perimal Peak, &c. &c, at distances of from two to ten miles away, entice parties to picnics & excursions, while the plateau & the hill sides teem with objects that are dear to the lovers of natural science - While there, I was mostly roaming about, from top to bottom of the hillsides, and was under a roof

~~as little as possible during my working hours.~~ Would that Kodaikānal, rather than Mahābaleshwar, were near enough to become the Sanitarium for our mission". ~~But it~~ requires less time to reach it ~~than~~ from Ahr. than Mahāb.r did a few years ago. 63 hours by rail from Ahr. brings one to Amanāyakanur the nearest Station to & 45 miles from Kodaikānal by the present route. These 45 miles now require some ten hours travel. So that now only an hour more than three full days is required for the journey, & the expense to one travelling 2d class (as we do ~~when~~ unless we ~~don't~~ travel 3d class) with not more than 60 lbs of baggage will be about 50 rupees. Exactly, it will be 43 rupees to "the Tope" at the foot of the hill, & if one will walk the remaining 12 miles, as I have done every time, 50 lbs of baggage will go up on the head of a rice-fed Tamil cooly for half a rupee. The charges for extra luggage (above 60 lbs) on the railroads, are large, amounting for 100 lbs from Ahr. to Amanā.r to Rs 12½. So you will see that the travelling expenses, especially for a single individual, are not prohibitory

While at K. I had the privilege of living in the family of Thos. Snell Smith of the Jaffna Mission. You know that Mrs S. is my daughter Emily - Mr S. and I found it very suggestive and useful during our long walks, to compare notes of missionary plans & experiences & opinions - We spent several days on a tour among the hill villages of the Lower Palanis in company with Br J. S. Chandler. As I cannot speak Tamil, I went for company & to spy out the land.

Mr S. & I also visited the elder Chandlers at Palani. We walked 25 miles the day we went down, and after two days there, more than 25 miles, by another path, the day we returned to K. So you will see that living on the Palanis had improved our walking power.

I visited Palani in 1866 - There was then only a small common school at the Station & the audiences Mr White collected where I went with him, in other villages were small though interesting. Since then Palani was for several years without a resident missionary. We were much interested in the orphanage & the boarding school in the mission yard, and also in the anglo-vernacular school and the preparation for a girls' school in the town, & also in the two "congregations" that we visited - Miss Gertrude Chandler has taught the boys in the ang. ver. school to sing ~~the~~ Christian Kirttans & has a Sunday school in their school-house, which many of the boys attend, & they recited to us texts that they had learned in the Sunday school. The singing of the scholars of the B'g. school was very nice & in perfect time. They had committed the hymns to memory & sung them with great spirit & enjoyment. I have always opposed the collecting of orphans into orphanages, lest they should at last become a great burden, ~~to~~ on the Am. Bd or ~~to~~ on somebody - But Mrs Chandler has wisely arranged for means of support so that there w.d seem to be less danger of such a result than is usually the case. Miss G. seemed greatly absorbed in teaching this school & particularly so in sewing & in singing - A missionary who can use an instrument of music, particularly a portable organ, well & who has mesmeri power in singing - possesses an untold power and advantage. We left P. feeling that operations there are efficient & have already done great good, & that they promise a vigorous growth.

I had long been desirous of visiting Jaffna & seeing what the Lord has wrought there as the style of work & results there is different from that of the Marāthi & also that of the Madura Missions. To go there with the Smiths seemed very favorable, & after corresponding about it with brethren in the Marāthi Mission I concluded to go, though after so long an absence from my own work (although I had done all I could for it by Marāthi correspondence with the native agents under my care) I could afford to stay only a few days.-

On our way to Negapatam, ~~(the port from which we sailed for Kāngesantūrai, which is the port of Jaffna & which is only 2¼ miles from the Mission House in Tellypally, where the Smiths are stationed,)~~ we visited Battālagundu & staid there long enough to become greatly interested in the workers & the work there, & also visited the Stations of the Wesleyan mission at Trichinopoly & Negapatam.

It makes too long a story to tell of all the interesting things we saw & heard. John S. Chandler is enthusiastic & magnetic & many sided in his fitness for missionary work, & probably it is greatly due to the training he has given them that his native preachers and teachers are remarkably capable and efficient. They came together for one of the three days' meetings which they hold monthly, while we were there & we were with them through ~~half~~ part of it. There were 17 (or 19?) present. They came in toward night, & at 7 P.M., in company with the 100 boarding scholars, began a praise meeting that lasted an hour. There were solos. The boys sang alone - the girls sang alone. The catechists & teachers sang alone & their singing was the most impressive, & all sang together with Mr Chandler's accompaniment on his Amer. organ. The hymns were mostly from Mr Chandler's "Xmas Songs". We enjoyed the whole exceedingly. Then an hour was given to addresses. Mine, translated by Mr C., & my answering questions occupied more than half of it.

8

Then next morning at 7 A.M. they had a prayer meeting for an hour - Then, their (Wide-awake?) meeting. One read an essay respecting the ("Saivi?") caste, from which several of the teachers have come. He thought they were descendents of the old Kshatriyas - Others remarked on it. Then one read a new abstruse hymn + gave an explanation of it + ~~then~~ proposed a tune for it, which he sung, independently + impressively, the rest joining after the second verse. Another proposed another tune + sung it through, ~~soon~~ accompanied by the rest. Others proposed to two other tunes. I was surprised to see that several of them were trained leaders in singing + that all but one joined in singing - Next came the Charitable Soc. Mr C. gives them as much more as they will ~~subscribe~~ give themselves - Mrs C. gives the marriage fees she has rec'd (for Mr C insists on a rupee for marrying a couple) + Mrs M. gives a rupee - This month too they had a little more. They administer it. Their Secy told what they had to divide + said that he had rec'd 12 petitions. 5 more petitions were handed in. Each was discussed + settled. A poor man was allowed a rupee to help him finish his hut. He needed three rupees. A poor woman who needed a cloth to cover herself, had been able to earn 6 annas ~~xx~~ toward it. They gave her the other 12 annas required - They gave a widow 10 annas that ~~was~~ had been spent on the funeral of her boy - &c. It was all very interesting. I should have gladly sat with them through their 3 days - but in the aftn we went on our way.

We took a "brig," of 65 tons, with a small poop deck under which we must have found shelter had it rained & on ~~[illegible]~~ which we lay down as soon as we began to feel queer. And there we lay till the evg of the 3d day when we anchored at Kangé Santurai - We were at anchor for 16 or 18 hours each day with a strong head wind & heavy sea. ~~Then~~ We had light favorable winds for six or eight hours a day - which gave us 20 miles each the first two days, & on the 3d put us past Pt. Calimere, so that we could use the strong head wind for tacking.

"On getting on shore & going half a mile we came to a large school house full of children. We went in & ~~staid~~ staid ~~there~~ a few minutes visit

The roll contained the names of 137 & perhaps two thirds of them were present. This was perhaps as good as any of Mr Smith's common schools that we visited. It rec.d last year more than Rs 5.00 as grant-in-aid from Govt., according to the results of examinations. When I came out & looked around, there were two houses in sight. Nearly the whole surface of the land in the vicinity was covered with a thick growth of Palmyra trees. Indeed the district seemed to me mostly covered with a forest of Palmyras though there are large stripes of open fields. The houses usually were hidden among the Palmyra trees & only the numerous school houses appeared on the roads. It was strange to hear Mr S. speak of "this village" where there was not a dwelling house in sight. But he told me that Tellypally, which covers about 16 square miles, has a population of 20.000. He has 17 schools in it, & there are some private schools besides.

$250

"The eight days I spent in the Jaffna district ~~there~~ were very busy interesting and profitable days for me. Mr Smith took me to all the eight places that are or have been stations of the Am. Bd. Three of them are now in charge of native pastors — men of weight & ability who speak English fluently - We visited the College, & the Medical School & the Girls' Boarding schools at Uduvile & Udupitti - & looked at the chapels. Some of them immense, as they retain the walls of the old Dutch churches - We went through the pile of buildings at Uduvile which contain the school-rooms, & the dormitories & dining room &c. for the girls, as well as the rooms for the lady principal. If it were divided into its three component parts the size & the cost wd not seem so great. We went to Karadive Island, also a forest of Palmyras, & there besides the large schools of the cultivators was one school of 25 Pariah boys, that was more like my little schools in the Dakhan than any other I saw in Jaffna. We also visited three of the Church Mission Stations, with their large boarding schools, & two Wesleyan Mission Stations with their large boarding schools. Surely Education is booming in Jaffna. I ~~spoke~~ made addresses in several places - Large audiences came to hear me. What I said was ably translated by ~~a~~ pastors & some native gentleman, & at each meeting there were others who could have translated equally well - We went to one Moonlight meeting for heathen. I also spoke to them through an interpreter. The Christian, the pastor at Tillypally had spoken before. ~~There were about 50 hearers~~ [illegible]. It was a nice room, ~~& well lit up~~. I asked who provided the lights & was surprised to learn that the owner of the house, a fisherman, provided them all, & he a heathen. ~~I never~~ in the Dakkian villages saw so good provision, every way ~~made for an evening meeting in the village~~ as there ~~was there~~, even by Christians, there it was all done by a ~~heathen~~. Christianity is honored in Jaffna. Many Christians are men of weight and influence & pecuniary ability & most of them are generous in giving." One of the last meetings I attended was held by delegates of the Jaffna Bible Soc. It was the last of a series of 24 such meeting that had been held during the last four months. Three delegates, one from each of the Missions, were ~~are~~ responsible for addressing each meeting. Their mileage in attending the meeting & other contingent expenses were ~~was~~ paid by the Soc. The fund for this ~~was~~ collected from the churches, the miss. also giving to it. Such things show a greater advance in social Christianity than has been made any where in this continent of India. We in the Bombay Pres'y have nothing to compare with it.

From my experience as a missionary and from what I have seen and heard of the work of other missionaries, the conviction has grown on me that concentrated effort is more effective than a similar amount of effort which is widely diffused. There has been comparatively a vast amount of mis'y effort concentrated on the small district of Jaffna, and the results are more valuable than those obtained in our large district. If we had been confined, geographically or otherwise, in the providence of God to a smaller field, & been content to expend on it the same labor ~~that~~ we have spread out, too thin, on these broad, too broad, fields; the crop, that is the results of our labor so far as they are tangible, would probably have been larger. But the ~~work there is~~ effect in Jaffna is still very incomplete & it seems to me that in the present eager & receptive state of the people, it is a great pity that the number of missionaries and of earnest fn workers cannot be increased.

There, education, & particularly English education is "booming" - and the best education is still obtained from the missionaries & if not from them personally, in schools that are under their vigilant superintendence. But the no. of schools got up under other direction is increasing. The mis's are unable to supply the demand. This is to be deplored. The tremendous influence wielded by the mis's on the present pop. through the schools - an influence which will be felt still more by the community when those now scholars shall come to take the places of their parents - should all be retained for Xy. It is sad that our mission cannot so meet the demand for education, which the people and govt. grants-in-aid will pay for, by its fn teachers & sufficient mis'y superintendence, that other unchristian schools will fail, because less efficient from their not properly educating the moral & spiritual nature of their scholars. Christianity has given their education to the best educated men in the district, and Xy is honored. Till now the mis's are known to be the most trustworthy in care of the funds, & the most judicious in their plans & arrangements, and the most successful in imparting a good education. May there be enough of them ~~retained~~ kept in, & sent to, the district in the good providence of God, to retain the control of the schools - and to use the schools in the service of Xy. Mis's, who act wisely, will work in those directions that are providentially promising, & these may differ in different districts. At present, in Jaffna, education offers its service to Xy. & that service should all be retained and used by Xn educators, so that the rising generation, ~~knowing~~ taught the truth in Xt, may by the Spirit also, learn to love & obey it. Oh, that the education of the middle classes of society were booming here, just as it is in Jaffna, & were similarly in the hands of the miss'o of the Am. Board!.

It is very sad in coming back, to find that some of our standard bearers have fallen. Sister Hume has left us & Vishnupant too — he who was so like the Apostle John. We look around anxiously & ask if others of our little, feeble band, are to be taken — & we pray "spare us good Lord". I trust that Dr Justin Abbott may not be switched off to some other line of our effort & that the Hardings & Parks may speedily regain health & vigor so that it will be judicious for them to return — & that others may be sent, soon in the good providence of God, not to open up new mines, but to more efficiently work those that are open & are so ~~poor~~ rich, but that need much concentrated effort —

I am Yours, "faint but pursuing,"

S. B. Fairbank

Rec'd Sept. 24

Wadale, Dist. of Ahmednagar, Bombay Presy
12 Sept. 1881.

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Secy A.B.C.F.M. &c.

Dear Sir;- A remark in a letter from Mrs Park, that I had the privilege of reading, has revived my hope that her brother, Rev John Winthrop Ballantine, may yet enter into the work here in which his father wrought so long and faithfully and with so much success. Mrs Park was writing of the obstacles in the way of their plan for returning after two years' absence, and then suggested the possibility of John's coming, as troubles in his church at Taunton, would require him to resign and he had said that this might be a providential intimation that he should become a missionary. I cannot quote her exact words as the letter has been returned to Mrs Bissell. The death of Mrs Hume and Br R.A. Hume's consequent request to be allowed to take his children to America, in connection with the probability expressed in a late letter from yourself that the Parks would not return for some years, had caused me great anxiety as to the future of our mission. That future looked very dark. There was reason to fear that Br R.A. Hume would be hindered from returning by similar reasons to those which hinder the Parks. His mother and grandmother and invalid sister have been provided for heretofore, but the addition of his three children to their family, would not only increase expenses beyond the amount allowed by the Board for the children, but would also fill rooms the rent of which has helped to give them a living.

Then we can hardly expect that all the other members of our mission will be able to hold on for a series of years. Br E. S. Hume has had poor health for the last three months and Mrs Hume has from the first been subject to serious sickness. Mrs Gates has done her mission work for three months while on her couch or hammock. The newly arrived, the Smiths, are neither of them as vigorous as is desirable. Dr Ballantine says nothing of going & his health has greatly improved from his active out-door life of the last two years; but a request for leave to visit Am. would not surprise any one. Others have frequently intimated, as the Prud. Com., through one of your letters, once did, that it might be well for me to visit Am: but with so good health as is allowed me, I could not see it proper for me to leave my work. I am as well aware as any one that my forgetfulness shows weakness and that at best my work has been too done imperfectly. But were I to go, most of it could not be done at all & I propose to hold on.

In the weak state of our Mission as to missionaries for carrying on work that is in progress & is continually developing and increasing, in the Marathi language, I can but say that it seems to me unwise to undertake a new Mission for the Hindustani-speaking population of Bombay. So far as the Mussulmans can be reached by our missionaries using the Marathi — there is no objection to those who will be able to use both languages well, learning Hindustani also — let us work for them. But missionaries are apt to have too many irons in the fire, and missions are apt to undertake too wide a field & to call a little scratching the soil here & there, cultivation. Such real cultivation as Jaffna has received, (to refer to a case among Hindus) is producing, what may more properly be called, a crop. Certainly so long as you find it hard to grant our scrimped estimates, it is a mistake to begin another expensive undertaking which is to be sustained out of the same total & so necessarily to reduce the sum allowed for present work, which is already insufficiently provided for. Better do thoroughly what is undertaken, than undertake so much that none of it is well done, though the doer is worn out in his endeavor to do it.

For carrying on properly what is in hand, we must have two mission~~aries~~ families in Bombay — three in Ahr., besides us two in this valley + the Winsors at Sirur — two in Sholapur — one in Satara and one in Bhuinj or its substitute. We trust the Hardings will be brought back for the work they left (or for Bombay) by the middle of next year. Then, the places vacated by the Parks and the E.A. Humes, must be filled. And it is desirable that there be a mission family for the Ahr. Valley. Young missionaries can do very little for the first year, unless such a one as John Ballantine who knew the language in childhood, or one of the Bissells who have the same advantage, should be sent. They & would soon be able to talk and preach & teach. ~~should be sent~~. I hope the Lord has such a favor in store for us, & that he will send those who can properly undertake the work.

Many Hindus as well as missionaries, definitely expected that John Ballantine on finishing his theol. course of study would come to this field as a missionary and it was a great disappointment that he was switched onto another line. But doubtless he needed further training — the training that in God's providence he has received — I do not know how much his wife may have had to do with his choosing an American position rather than the missionary work. But I understand that she has proved an excellent wife for him & more & more so — And I trust that she may prove an excellent missionary —

I read the letter referred to, in last mail, & I wrote to Mr Ballantine, hurriedly, giving him some reasons for coming to our help but there was not time left to write this letter to you. But I hope that the matter will have come up & have been settled in our favor before either of these letters reaches its destination. If they are led in divine providence to offer themselves, do give us Henry Ballantine and Mary Bissell that has for a time sojourned with you. We have need of them. The children of missionaries, especially of such missionaries, get into the work more easily than others, and continue to work without chafing.

My Henry gives excellent promise — the leader in a large class and yet not puffed up — a member of the mission band at Amherst & interested in the work. But he has five years at least of study in the College and the Seminary; and a young man of his ability as a scholar will be greatly tempted to stay among scholars. But I will ask the Lord that he may be sent to relieve me" & ask it continually "that I may praise the Lord for this blessing.

We are greatly in need of rain, all through this valley. The price of our staple grain (Holcus sorghum) has gone up 25% within ten days. It will soon be dear unless copious rain allows the farmers to sow it for the winter crop. The time for sowing it on the lighter soils has almost passed by. — I have not time for more today. Write

Fraternally yours in the work S. B. Fairbank

Wadale, Sep. 12, 1881,
Rec'd Oct. 24

Wadale Dist. of Ahmednagar Bombay P'y
9 Jan 1882

To Rev Dr Clark Secy A.B.C.F.M.

Dear Sir, The preparation and printing of our Marathi Almanac and duties as to repairing & leasing the old press building, selling the Byculla house and building the new one, required me to visit Bombay, and I was there when your letter of 12 Nov, containing the list of appropriations by the Prudential Com.e to our mission for 1882, was received. So many things demanded my attention there and also at Ahmednagar on my way back, that I was unable to find time for writing to you by last week's mail. The special reason for my writing at once was that when our arrangements for selling the Byculla house were all, as we supposed, completed, we were astonished to find that the power of attorney last ~~sent~~ from America does ~~did~~ not give us authority to sell any property. This surprised me the more because I was sure that the old power of attorney that was in our hands when I resided in Bombay, did give such authority. Dr Hume fell sick just after I left Bombay, but I hope that he found time before that to write and ask for a power of att'y that will enable him to sell the B. house

It seems to me the best way to send a general power of atty that will empower us to act in *any* matter that concerns the property of the Am. Board. The changes made in the form last sent, indicate a loss of confidence in us either as to our business capabilities or our honesty. Providentially you gave authority to go on and spend $5000 or 6000, before selling the present house, in the erection of the new one; or this delay from the imperfection of the power of att'y, would have prevented us from going on with the new building till the end of March at least.

In your letter to Br Hume you express the hope founded on the cost of the new building for the Girls' school in Ahmednagar, that the new house in Bombay might be built for $6000 or even $5000. But the estimate made by Mr Morris the architect was Rs 17300 for the house + 4000 for the out houses = Rs 21.300, which is the equivalent at the present rates of exchange of some $9000. A two-story house, for the same floor room, is more expensive than a house with only the ground floor. Then, all the materials of the old school house at Nagar were used in building the new one + materially diminished the cost of it. Mr

Morris says what all who are building know, that the prices of materials for building have risen from 12 @ 15 % since he made the estimate for this house, & responsible contractors refuse to undertake it at those rates. So Dr Hume thinks to use a capable head workman & build the house himself. The Architect reluctantly consented to this arrangement, as it will give him more work in superintendence & make it harder for him to condemn any poor material that may have been purchased for the building. The contractor who built the Ahd. school house went to B'y and made a rough estimate with reference to taking the contract, but finding his estimate larger than Mr Morris's, declined to undertake the work at these rates.

You may think the house unnecessarily large. I objected to having so large a sitting room above and dining room below. But in bringing fairly in ~~the~~ mind the need of having these rooms large enough to accommodate the company that gathers monthly for the Conference of Missionaries, and for meetings of the natives, as there is to be no other large room suitable for such gatherings on the premises, and the difference in cost ~~of~~ between these & smaller rooms would not amount to many hundreds of dollars, I waived my objections and approved the plan. The house contains a large room ~~for~~ which joins the a spare room for the accommodation of those newly arrived from or those going to Amer., or of a family from the Dakhan sent to Bombay for a change of health &c. This, we of the Dakhan think is a necessity, & yet it is likely to be occupied by Br Abbott, and the Humes will need to give up one of the rooms they usually require in case such a spare room is called for. The house will contain, upstairs, only the sitting room & three bedrooms. These three are necessary for a family with children of both sexes after they leave babyhood. Below, the house will have the spare room, the study, the library & the dining room, & the passage ways & stairs. Then there are verandas. The style proposed is plain, with none of the gimcracks that add so much to the cost of most buildings that are going up in Bombay.

Br Abbott will need a room for a servant & a stable &, he thinks, a veranda before the spare room to make it suitable for meeting natives without bringing them into his room where his bed &c, will be. And these additions will bring up the cost of the house & ~~its~~ its appendices to $10.000.

These arrangements are made with the expectation that he will board with the Humes. And such an arrangement *may* be the best, permanently. I think however it is well that the principal additional expense in buildings on his account, will be for a stable and out house & that those will be placed so as to be available for another house in case it should hereafter be found best for him, or another in his place, to keep house by himself.

I am heartily thankful that I am not stationed in Bombay. It is Vanity Fair. The rushing crowds seem to care for nothing but to make money & then enjoy spending it. The intense worldliness of the people disheartened me. I am glad that there are missionaries who prefer to work in such a city. The death of the beloved Vishnupant has left a blank that will not speedily be filled. But Tukārāmji Nathoji gives excellent promise both in the pulpit & as a pastor. His book the Family Friend took the first prize in a competition some years ago when Pastor Modak's took the second. It is deservedly one of the most popular of our Marathi Books.

The church has engaged him to supply its pulpit for six months & I hope he will suit so well that he will become its pastor.

Receiving the list of appropriations, has brought me very low. For years my specialty in missionary polity has been to lay the foundations of self support, by making farmers out of mahars, & to cultivate in them the spirit of giving for our institutions. As mahars they can give very little; for mahars live on the pieces that fall from the farmers' tables. But the last four years have been years of insufficient rain & short crops, so that these half trained farmers have found it very hard to hold on in the hope that their work would at last become remunerative. So as yet I have no results to show that look like progress in this line. Then the S.P.G. instead of asking fees from the scholars in its village schools gives them presents of articles of clothing. A strong inducement to attend ~~[illegible] the~~ our village schools & study hard, has been found in the hope of being chosen for scholarships in the Normal School. But this year, with Mr Haig we have undertaken to raise the standard of the examination for the entrance into & the course of study in ~~into~~ the Normal School & so have sent in no new scholars from the village schools; & this has discouraged the scholars & their parents. Now the only way that appears feasible to meet the reduction is to dismiss some teachers & so disband some of the schools. This reduction seems to come in a most inopportune time. In making our estimates we were as economical as we dared to be & for one I have done all I could to prepare this & the community for bearing burdens. But after four years of struggle for existence, when every body has gone ~~[illegible]~~ in debt by buying on tic & then failed ~~[illegible]~~ in ~~their~~ his efforts ~~[illegible]~~ to get the means to pay – during which the money lenders have almost to a man lost the power to lend any more – & the whole community is suffering from bad times that are bad beyond any thing America ever dreamed of – the Xns are not able to do much in the way of supporting their pastors & their schools. There are good crops to the E. & S. of my district & Grain is very cheap. & no body is starving near me. But in a district 50 miles at least in diameter which begins 15 miles West of this & only two miles N. from Rahuri there are no crops this year except in the patches watered from wells which furnish a scant supply of water, much less than if there had been sufficient rain. From two miles West of my house to the W. & North, the crops among poor with only here and there a patch that will produce grain. In that part of my field I have six schools, two of which are among ~~the~~ my best there - It may prove impossible to keep them up & in that way the question as to how I shall reduce my expenditure for schools may be solved. It comprises the villages in which the members of the Sonai & Pānchegāw churches live.

As I was writing this, Kāshibā, an old man, a member of the Sonai church & one of the head men among the Mahārs of Kharawandi, came in to ask a note of introduction to the gentleman in charge of the relief works that Government has authorized in the district referred to above. He wishes to take a hundred workmen with him & work on the road that is to be made from the railroad station at Lākh - The relief works sanctioned by Govt. are three roads in different parts of that cropless district, & the Engineer says that they will furnish work for 16 000 people for 6 months.

The villagers of Gahū (from which one of our churches gets its name) have gone into Khandesh and settled there as a colony & likely the inhabitants of other villages will follow their example. I would write more but cannot by this mail. Yours in the Master's work

S. B. Fairbank

P.S.

The unpleasant ~~thought~~ has just been suggested that I have not written to you anything with regard to allowances for my children for 1882. Last year you most kindly went beyond my expectations and secured an allowance of $200 for Katie, in view of her foregoing desired privileges of study at Wellesley & giving herself to the care of her motherless sisters, content to trust the Lord for what she needed. So the assurance of your carefulness in the matter, may be a kind of excuse for my forgetfulness, as, had I thought you & the Prud. Com. careless of my children, I should surely have remembered to write in good season.

You may be aware that my children have been partly supported by the interest of a sum ($3500) ~~deposited~~ loaned in Illinois. It did give them ten per cent but now gives only 8% & I find it difficult to send them more from here, so, they receive less from me than I could desire. Many think that after 35 years of miss.y life I had better cast in my lot with my children in Am.a But instead of that I ask the Lord to send of them to enter into this work — for I know not how long I may be allowed to continue in it.

All I can do in this way for my children is to ask that the Prud. Com. will make such allowances for them as their kind hearts will prompt & the rules will allow — And as to what they may need farther, I can trust the Lord & His people. They are under His providential care & many dear friends take an interest in them & will see that they do not suffer want. Remembering the past I am

Yours thankfully
S. B. Fairbank

Jan. 9, 1886
[illegible]

Ahmednagar (Wadālê) Wn. India. 15 Nov. 188

To Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Secy A.B.C.F.M.
Congl. House, Boston, Mass. U.S.A.

Dear Dr Clark; Time failed me last wee and my plan for writing a description of the surroundings of the new house in Bombay, to go with the report of the building committee, was not carried out. It often seems when I stay at home in order to write somethin which demands continuous thought, that interruptions from persons who have come from other villages to call on me are also continuous & in consequence the writin is not done. I can put off those who live near by, till the pressing work is done, but when people have come several miles to see me, I can not well decline meeting the at once.

We have reason for special gratulation on account of the completion of the new Byculla House. The hindrances that delayed the work for years, many of them entirely unexpected and uncontrollable, and the responsibility he at last assumed in order to build the house, without a contractor, so as to secure such a house as was needed and yet not expend more than was estimated, made great demands on Dr Hume's time and oppressed his spirits. It proved necessary for me to go to Bombay three times with regard to it, besides attending to it also when other matters called me to Bombay. These visits enabled me to examine the work and the materials used from the foundation to the roof & I know that there was no poor or hurried! work, nor poor material put into it. I should have preferred a single roof to the double one that Mr Morris insisted on. But I was happy to find that the gutter between the two roofs did not leak at all these last rains and I hope it will not leak in the future. The difference in the cost of building in Bombay and at Ahmednagar is greater than I would have believed had I not worked out the items carefully. The cost of stone, brick sand, mortar, & even earth, in Bombay, is the reason for this, even more than the enhanced wages of the workmen. Bro Hume made every effort to build economically and was most fortunate in having so shrewd and honest a man as Isaac to purchase for him. The wood, teak, for the house especially, was obtained at rates surprisingly cheap, when prices were going up because of the unusual demand for teak for government as well as private buildings. The regular price for teak wood soon became 20% more than Mr Morris had noted in his estimate for these

When the lot was obtained on which the house & school house have been built, there was a vacant lot in front it, to the West, on the other side of the Parel Road. It was used for storing stone, lime &c by the Municipality. Although on the other side of the broad street called "Parel Road" which has broad carriage ways on both sides of the tramway's double track, as well as broad sidewalks, we felt some solicitude as to the buildings that might be erected on that vacant lot. And it was a great relief & joy when the Municipality began the fine buildings for the police that now occupy the centre of that lot. The buildings are fine architecturally ~~same~~ face faced with Porbandar stone which is straw colored. They cost more than two lacks (Rs 2,00,000) of Rupees. And they are set far back from the road, just as the Jewish synagogue to the South of them & the buildings of the Education Society to the North are set back. And like the grounds ~~around~~ of the Synagogue & the Edn. Soc. the space in front of these new police headquarters will be ~~made into a flower~~ used for a parklike garden ~~&~~ with lawns, shrubs & trees. The grounds of these three parties, extending for at least a third of a mile on the other side of the road before the new Mission House & thus permanently devoted to landscape gardening, add greatly not only to ~~the~~ its value but also to ~~the~~ its attractiveness & healthfulness. The lot to the North of it is now occupied by a building erected by the G. I. P. Railway Company for the use of its workmen when sick. But it is the intention of Government to make a road right along the Northern border of our premises. To the South is a large lot that contains three dwelling houses, & beyond that are iron works. ~~At~~ By the East border of our premises the G. I. P. Railroad passes. This is a security against the collection of filth or other nuisances there. But one needs to become accustomed to the noise of the both the iron works & the railroad before he will be able to disregard it. But notwithstanding the noise, the spot with its fine frontage & security from nuisances, is regarded as ~~regarded~~ ~~as~~ most eligible & the estimated value of thousand of (R [illegible] times as much as the mission paid for it.

We had very interesting Anniversary meetings in the latter part of Oct'r. May the leaven then put in, long affect the whole Christian community. There is danger, if I may judge from an editorial in the Bombay Guardian of the 11th inst. entitled "The Needs of the Native Church", that you will get an exaggerated idea of what was done the past year by the churches in our connection for the support of their pastors. It is true that the mission paid them no grants-in-aid & also that "the Union" supplied the needed grants-in-aid from funds that were, to at least 80%, given by native Xns. But they were the funds collected in the Jubilee year. The churches under my watch did not give as much as had been hoped & expected. Indeed the collections of the ten churches in this valley of the Godāvari, did not amount to half the salaries of the 8 pastors who minister to them. I have little hope that these churches will become really self-supporting, so long as most of their members are Mahārs who rely on their receipts as Mahārs for subsistence. Some of our Xns are getting fields & living by farming & although the past five years have been years of hard work with scanty crops, so that the farmers have barely subsisted, there is no doubt that "work & sowin will make farmin pay", certainly ~~much that~~ it is the most reliable business that we can undertake in India. and is certainly far better than the resultless life of a village Mahar.

This year the rain in many villages fell favorably for the Kharif (those sowed in June) crops & they were growing finely when the locusts destroyed them. The grain ~~they~~ farmers were joyfully preparing to garner was snatched from their mouths. Two Christian farmers residing 7 miles West from here had no crops last year because of the drought. I had supplied them with seed which they sowed in the beginning of July. For six weeks it grew finely till the young locusts, that had hardly been noticed when ~~young~~ small & green, had grown so large as suddenly to become very destructive. Gov't offered a small sum (a pice in places where they were very thick & an anna where there were few) for each sher of locusts (three pints) that the people would bring in. They collected baskets full, but found that their efforts did not apparently diminish ~~their~~ numbers of the locusts, which eat more & more as they grew larger. These two farmers at length came with sad faces to tell me that the locusts had completely destroyed their Kharif crop. There was not an ear of the Bajari left to ripen. I supplied them with sorghum seed for sowing their fields again. By the time that had grown to have 2 or 3 leaves, the locusts had obtained wings & flown away. Their sorghum crop is now knee high & is growing finely except that where the soil is more shallow the moisture in the soil is nearly exhausted & the leaves are beginning to curl. We have had no rain since 26 Sept & are

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now beginning to suffer for want of it. It is now so late in the fall that we can hardly hope for another rain this y without one most of the fields of sorghum will dry up ~~without~~ before producing grain. In case rain does fall, those two few farmers will receive as the result of this year's work only a stack of fodder that may suffice for feeding their oxen till the grass spring after the rains begin next June. After that they can sow again & try once more for a harvest. Certainly they have "need of long patience".

It is a new thing for this region to be spoile by locusts. When they came three years ago the people did not know what they were. They went across the country toward the South in a thick column that was about 3 miles broad. They ate all the crops in their path, stopping in one place only a few hours.

This year in June, before the first sowing commenced we were surprised to have a fe locusts come in from the S.S.E. They contin to come for three days, till every bush harbo some. They were wary, & would fly by the time o had approached within 8 or 10 feet of them. Th were only the pickets thrown out in advan by the immense army that arrived on the d... It passed us on the wing. I watched them steadily for a long time. Some were flying within 20 feet of the ground & some were flying high in the air. ~~They~~ Others were sometimes within a yard of each other, but ~~more~~ usually a rod apart. I could see them at least half a mile both East & West & they were three hours in passing. They all went toward the N.N.W. When those who had been with us two or three days heard the whirring of the great body, they rose & flew along with it & we began to hope that all would leave us. But some staid & in certain villages a great many staid, & they laid the eggs from which the brood hatched which became so destructive in September.

After that great flight had passed we were astonished to find by the reports from the places over which it ~~went~~ flew, that it extended from Paithan on the East to Rāhuri on the West & was therefore 60 miles in width! Think of an army 60 miles in breadth that was three hours whizzing by, as on the wings of the wind!

When I went into Ahmednagar on 16 Oct their wings had grown & they were leaving each field as they had spoiled & flying to others. But a week

Dnyanodaya Nov. 12. 1885.

Rec 8 Dec [illegible]

later as by a common impulse, they left this region & flew toward the S.W. They flew night after night for five nights – but all in the same direction – In Ahmednagar we saw them from 8 to 10 each of those five evenings flying across the moon's disk. We could see them for what seemed ten or twenty feet on each side of the moon – They were illuminated by the moon's light & shone like fire flies as they passed – It certainly is very strange that night after night they should all go in identically the same direction. They stopped more or less in the Poona & Satara Districts – But it is to be hoped that the great host kept on in the same direction till they fell exhausted into the ocean & became food for fishes. Since my return to Wadale on the 1st inst. I have not seen a locust. But people say that in some places a part of them had not grown their wings when the rest went & that they have not gone yet.

Our schools have had a vacation since the Oct. meetings – but will assemble again tomorrow the 16th.

My daughters, Katie & Mary, lived with me here in Wadale through Aug & Sept – But are now settled in Ahd. Katie has secured the use of Marathi so as to converse on common subjects. And she will now begin to teach somewhat in the Girls' school. I must close now [illegible] for Ahmednagar, so that he will [illegible] in time

[illegible] Fairbank

Ahmednagar, Nov. 15, 1882.
Rec'd Dec. 22.
Byculla Transcript
Locusts

[illegible] to keep in life [illegible] so [illegible] though [illegible] going as [illegible] need – We must trust in the Lord & do good, assured that we shall continue to dwell in the land & that we shall be fed.

Wadāle Ahmednagar, 6 Mar 1883

To Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.
Sec; A.B.C.F.M. Dear Sir

Sometime has passed since we heard of your enforced absence from your usual duties & I hope that change of air & rest have completely restored your health. You will be sorry to hear of the serious sickness of Bro. Smith. Ten days have passed since the fever & dysentery became active. The doctor is waiting for that stage in the progress of the fever in which he may be sent to Bombay. And he thinks that from Bombay he will need to go to Mahābaleshwar. He would send him to Mahābr. at once were his liver not involved in the sickness. For months his sallow color & frequent ill turns have indicated to me an inactive liver, and now he is so much reduced that a speedy recovery is not to be expected. Mrs Smith has been an invalid for a year, but has improved since the beginning of this year. Both of them look frail & are likely to have frequent sicknesses -

Br. R.A. Hume has undertaken, for this emergency, to care for the High School, to the establishment & development of which the Smiths have been giving their time and energies - I fear the School will become a burden to those who never would have begun it.

You may think it strange that I should write thus of the health and undertakings of others. But in so small a company as ours, with no reserves, the failure of any one's health affects the rest most seriously. And several things have occurred which combine to make me very anxious for the dear mission - The principal of these are the dismission of the Parks, this sickness of Mr Smith, the going of Dr Ballantine and the Winsors, & the news which I rec'd on the 2d inst, which suggests the most unwelcome thought that Arthur Bissell may not come to our help, as we had definitely expected -

I have watched my Katie's recovery of the Marathi with the greatest interest. She now speaks and writes it with ease & idiomatic as well as grammatic correctness - She understands what is said to her, which for a new comer is more difficult than to speak so much of the language as he has learned - Seeing this, I am impressed, more strongly even than I was before, with the immense advantage one, who was here as a child till eleven or twelve years old, has in entering on mission work – and indeed has in the whole course of missionary life. The pronunciation of a native, with no brogue, the apprehension as if by instinct of idiomatic peculiarities & the ability to use them properly, – the appreciation of peculiarities in the native modes of thought & feeling & the power of using them to convince & interest & persuade – these most important advantages, are at best only approximately attained by those who first entered India in mature life. Arthur Bissell would be able to begin efficient work in 3 or 4 months & take the superintendence of Sirūr or Rāhūri and so relieve his father or me from these additions to our work, which is already too much to be satisfactorily done.

I have for years enjoyed such good general health & such immunity from the ill turns to which I had been subject, that no one seems to think I am likely to break down. But it is only by taking what most w^d think an excess of exercise, that I am able to retain elasticity. When I must work at my study table or in meetings more than about six hours a day for several days, I find I must

afterwards
have days of unpleasant reaction, till the loan of strength is repaid with interest at a high rate. I am not nearly able to meet the requirements of my [illegible]strict, and I am very sorry that it must fall to my lot to superintend his district during Dr Ballantine's expected absence.

"I am still doing my best to make the churches under my care self-supporting. The Christians need habits of systematic beneficence and they need for their means of livlihood, such occupations as will render them independent of the whims and passions of the heathen around them. ~~Neither~~ No one of the five churches under my watch is fully self-supporting - and in all of them the larger part of the subscriptions is obtained from those who are employed by the use of mission funds. The majority of the members live on what they receive as ~~Mahars~~ Mahars, from the farmers, eking out the pittance by working as day laborers when they can get employment. Just now, in a plentiful harvest, they have enough to eat. For a part of the year they have no certainty of sufficient food and are often half starved. Self support in a church composed of such members can be attained only by a great increase of membership."

(Wadale, 6 Mar. 1883.) 2d. Sheet.

My idea has been to lead the christians to cease depending on the perquisites of Mahārs & engage in farming or carting or some other independent occupation. For most of them farming promises best. And I have encouraged and helped, to the extent of my ability, such Mahār Christians as seemed likely to succeed, to secure fields and oxen and become farmers. It has seemed, however, that my efforts in this line began at an unpropitious time. For we are now harvesting ~~reaping~~ the first good crop realized since the famine - the first good crop crop in 6 years! The rainfall in the Dakhan is precarious; but such a series of years with insufficient rain is not common. Then the destruction of the fine rainy-season crops last Aug-Oct, by locusts, was unprecedented. They ~~that~~ were hatched in the fields & grew with the crops, destroying more & more as they grew larger till they took all. Such a plague was unknown here, ~~was unprecedented~~. Farming is on the whole the best business for our Native Christians and though its results are not as sure as in America, still "workin and savin will make farmin pay."

The crop of wheat & sorghum, now being carted from the fields and threshed, is abundant - & the Mahār will get his share. So now, of all the year, is the time when these poor Christians have something to contribute. We are trying to lead them to give liberally. The "Union" appointed a committee to visit these churches in the valley, just in this month. The principal man on the Com., & the one on whom they depended particularly for success in the effort, was Mr. Modak (Ramkrishnapant) & I am very sorry that he is so much of an invalid that he cannot undertake the journeys requisite for carrying out the plan. We must do as well as we can without him.

In this matter of self support, Dr Ballantine has set an example that I wish I could imitate. For years he has drawn no allowances from the funds of the Board, although the mission has thought best to ask an allowance for his salary & the Board has allowed it. It has seemed strange to me that no reference has been made to this his self-denial in your letters to the mission. Now he proposes to visit America at his own charges. But should this visit result in his marriage, as I hope it will, he will need to draw an allowance. The profits received from his fields have not sufficed

(Wadale 6 Mar 1883) 2d Sheet. 7

for his frugal support, alone. Dr Ballantine in his intercourse with ~~the~~ some members of the mission has been very reticent. This was from excessive sensitiveness. It has become less from year to year. He shows nothing of it to the natives. And English gentlemen in government employ hold him in high esteem & see nothing of the shyness which is still under the surface. He has done and is doing good work as a missionary as well as a physician at Rāhūri & all through the district under his charge. But that district and mine need the influence and teaching of a godly woman. I hope that his visit to Am. will provide that blessing for the Rāhūri district. And I hope that our mission force may be so increased that a mission family can be ~~spared~~ sent to take my place here. Not that I am desirous of change, but I have been 36 years a missionary & I am not equal to the requirements of this district. My Katie has paid me a monthly visit since she went to reside in Nagar & she has made it at the time when the Mission Employees under my charge have been assembled, and I have thanked the Lord for the effects that I have seen resulting from her visits. I could not however ask that she be stationed here with me. She needs the company of Miss Harding & would soon fade without it - They need each other -

I am sorry that it proves necessary for me to stay here this hot season - except so much as will be required for attending the mission meeting in May - But I remember that once before when I thought I sd. be away & duty kept me at work among the villages of the Sholápur & Kaladgi collectorates, my health did not suffer.

There has so little of special interest occurred in these parts that I have not written you for a long time - I must try & gather bits of intelligence that may prove interesting to somebody.

I earnestly hope & pray that the Lord will send Arthur Bissell, with a godly wife, to our help. You have no more efficient mis^s., in these parts at least, than Dr & Mrs Bissell and surely instead of the parents shall be the children, ready for every good hard work - Yours in Christ

S B Fairbank

Rec'd Apr. 9. Ans'd

Waḍāḷe, Ahmednagar, Wn. India
4 April 1883

My dear Dr Clark

The Amn. papers received last evening tell of the floods that were destroying the cities and towns on the Ohio River a month ago. The news should properly excite our sympathy for the sufferers. But instead a mixed feeling is produced, for how do we in this dry and parched Dakhan, rejoice over plenty of water! and how would we delight to receive that surplus which Ohio and Kentucky would gladly spare! The hot season is now in full blast. It is a windy day but my windows are shut & bolted to keep out the puffs which are like those from the mouth of a furnace. Those at Mahābaleshwar report pleasant weather there and were there not matters very important to our little Zion, that require my presence and attention the eager invitations to come and help enjoy Mahābaleshwar might prevail. But so far the hot weather has done me no harm, apparently.

Yesterday morning taking an early breakfast I drove to Shingavē Tūkāī, a village nine miles South of this, and after some hours spent in examining the school & holding a meeting, and filling up the rest with eager conversation.) I returned in the heat, reaching home a little before 3 P.M., tired and with some headache, and very glad to find only one man, who wanted my services, waiting here for my return. So far as I am aware I am none the worse for it today. The special reason for going & holding the meeting was to secure as large & complete a contribution as possible for the Church Sustentation Fund of "the Union". The Union appointed a Committee last Oct. for visiting the Churches & gathering funds for this object. The principal man in the Committee was Rev. Ramkrishnapant, and as he has been and is still an invalid, the Committee sent word to the pastors to make their collections themselves without the help of the Com. Just now the winter harvest is being threshed and garnered, and so it is the time of all the year for the rank and file of the Christian Community to give their contributions. Those who have fields of their own, can give some grain from their threshing floors & those who serve the villages as Mahars, can give from the grain they now receive on account of their year's work.

The Christians at Shingawè have been blessed in

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temporal matters this year and as several of them have fields, I had depended on generous contributions from them. But to my sorrow and astonishment, two weeks ago, their pastor, Rev Jayaram Barse suddenly left them and joined Mr Taylor the S.P.G. missionary. He merely wrote me a few lines saying that he had no rest outside the church and must give in his resignation as pastor. He had sent away his family before and left Shingave in the night and did not even say good bye to the people or intimate to them his intentions! So I feared they would feel disheartened and sore. Instead, they felt indignant, and as they with one voice declared it was done merely for money — report having told them that Mr T. would give him Rs 30 a month instead of the 14 they gave him, — they were rather glad he had gone.

We had an enthusiastic meeting, and with the exception of one man, & he one of their deacons, every Christian man woman & child ~~gave~~ subscribed something. + six Hindus subscribed, of whom three were patils (village officers). Most gave promises of grain. One gave a sheep. Three or four gave money. The whole of the grain subscribed amounted to one and a half Khandis, which wd weigh about 4000 lbs & measure 75 bushels. But grain is cheap this year the amount realized from the Collection will be 65 or 66 rupees. This was a half more than

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the most sanguine had expected and all were jubilant over the result as a grand success. I s'd add that the deacon who would not subscribe, said that w.d give, but that he did not wish his left hand to know what his right hand gave. He was at once advised to let his light shine and not hide it under a bushel. But having once said that he would not say how much ~~though~~ he w.d give, he c.d not be persuaded to add his name to the subscription list. There ~~were~~ are two or three Christians of Sh. who were not at home, but who are sure to give when they return. So I regard the work of collection at Shingavé as complete, — every one contributing according to his or her ability & some of them generously, — and eminently successful. Half of the whole amount was subscribed by four men, from the produce of their farms. They are men whom I have helped by loaning them at a small interest sums sufficient to buy oxen & so properly cultivate the fields from which they had not before received much profit. ~~from~~ When the majority of these Xns ~~had~~ become successful farmers & not till then, the native churches will become really self supporting. With best wishes Yours in the good work

S. B. Fairbank

Ahmednuggur, Apr. 4. 1883.
S. B.
Rec'd May 7.

Wadālē, Ahmednagar, 18 Jan. 1884.

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Sec. ABCFM.

Dear Bro.; I am well aware that regular & full reports from your missionaries are important and that racy letters from some of them are indispensable. Yet under the pressure of multifarious work (which since the end of last July has taken me away from my regular duties here more than a third of the time & so has filled the other two thirds with the labor of bringing up arrears,) many months have passed since I last wrote to you. On account of the absence of Dr Ballantine I have charge of his district, just as Dr Bissell has charge of the Sirûr district on account of the absence of the Winsors. It is a pity, but is certain that our native agents need the help of careful superintendence & that some of the pastors neglect important matters & work carelessly, unless they find that the missionary is well posted as to what they are doing & what they are not doing. I think that those under my watch would do better under the watch of a younger man.

I am thankful for good health. It is usually vigorous. But my body is stronger than my mind. My memory was never as strong as that of some of my associates, and now it often fails me when I need its faithful help the most. I would not complain of this querulously. For many Gov't officers so lose their memories, after twenty five years' work in India, that they depend & must depend on the memory & accuracy of their secretaries & clerks. But this forgetfulness detracts greatly from my efficiency as a superintendent of the work of those who do better for being looked after by one who forgets nothing & has all the details of their duties, & the possibilities of results from their faithfulness, at his fingers' ends. As for preaching, if the word I want does not come when called for, others, that will pass, do come, & this troublesome forgetfulness has not yet perceptibly impaired my power as a speaker. And in literary work, although it oftener proves necessary for me to consult my authorities and so a given work requires more time, the results are as satisfactory as they ever were. The ~~Marathi~~ Dnyānodaya Almanac for this year, which required fifteen days of close work, is just what I would wish it to be. Br. Bowen in the

Bombay Guardian of 22 Dec. gave a highly appreciative notice of it, with which I was so well pleased that I will quote it. He says of it; "This is the *Dnyanodaya Panchang* of well established reputation, but under a new form, 12mo, & in a new style. It is wonderful what people can do when they aim at excellence and employ the best means of attaining it. This is a marvel of cheapness and attractiveness, being filled with diversified matter, serious & spicy, grave & gay, temporal & spiritual, prose & metre, & all for an anna." The cheapness was not attained by selling below cost. The new style in 12mo with a narrow margin, though really preferable for an almanac, was chosen because it would allow a small margin of profit, although the price was an anna, only, that is, less than three cents.

You doubtless are aware of the necessity for sending us speedy reinforcements. Each one of us has far more in hand than can be even properly done, to say nothing of thoroughness & excellence. The High School to which the Smiths have given themselves, soul & body, is highly desirable; but it does not belong to our old program of evangelism. Neither of them has strong health & they can do no village work, except in vacations. Dr R.A. Hume, has managed to do a vast amount of village work & literary work, besides, during this last year, doing double work in the Theol. Sem'y, because of the sickness of Prof. Modak. Dr. Bissell, like me, has two districts under his charge, either one of which might well engage all his energies & he also is a Prof.r in the Theol. Sem'y. Since Miss Harding & my Katie took charge of the Girls' school, Mrs Bissell goes with her husband on tours through their broad districts & when at the beginning of this year, his accounts & reports kept him at home in Ahmednagar, Mrs Bissell kindly ~~went~~ came to my help for a week, going to Rahuri, to work among the women there & particularly to gain personal impressions of the work which the two Bible women who live there are doing, & to help them improve in it. We need two more men, married men, for the district work in this part of the Mission, *now*. I mean men who have a fair use of the language. When Arthur Bissell, & later my Henry, come, they will be able in a few weeks to use the Marathi for p. 5 see further on]

restrict the calls of those needing medicine to the afternoon & I was often called up in the night for medicine & the necessary directions. It was & is a satisfaction, that nearly all who took my medicines, recovered their health. In the few cases where the patients died, they did not take the medicine till the disease had nearly done its work, or, as I found on inquiry, the medicine was not taken according to the directions. I have noticed that camphor is an ingredient in most of the medicines that have proved useful in the treatment of cholera, & I regard it as a specific for the purpose of stopping the vomiting & purging of serum, that accompany this disease. I think that ~~it~~ camphor stops the ~~flow~~ separation of serum from the blood. But its action needs to be modified by the administration of some alkaline substance, which will make the kidneys act powerfully so to remove the serum & other watery substances which have accumulated in the stomach & intestines. If these substances are allowed to remain, they cause bloating & consequent death. I have found nitre most active & efficient as a corrective for the bad effects of camphor. This year I used pills containing about a grain each of camphor & nitre, giving one at once each time after the patient had vomited & continuing to give them till the vomiting ceased. Then I gave 6 or 8 grains of nitre dissolved in a little water. If this did not cause urine to flow within an hour, or in urgent cases within half an hour, I would give another similar dose of nitre. Unless urine flows, there is little reason to expect recovery. In one case when the nitre did not take effect & the patient was much bloated, I gave an emetic & so removed the fluids from the stomach; & the patient recovered."

I have often grudged the time taken for dispensing medicine. But in the example & teaching of the Master, healing is so intimately connected with preaching the gospel, that I try to exercise my gift of healing ungrudgingly.

The Churches. There are five churches in this N. E. District. Four of them have pastors, but I have much to do with them because some members of each of them are agents of the mission & so are under my superintendence. I am the acting pastor of the fifth church, & this adds decidedly to my duties. Its membership is located in the villages of Shingavè & Zawkhèdè & their vicinity; & they are 12 miles apart & respectively 9 & 19 miles away from my home in Wadālè. A few members live in villages that are some miles farther away than Zawkhèdè. My visiting them for pastoral work, is necessarily confined to special occasions, such as communion seasons & marriages. Six marriages that I solemnized in 1883, required me to go to the villages where the brides were residing. They gave me excellent opportunities for addressing large companies on the subject of marriage. Heathen and child marriages have proved in the past a prolific cause of excommunication from our churches.

There were few additions by profession of faith to either of these churches in 1883. But 12 men and 12 women have been added to the membership of the Shingavè church since the beginning of 1884. They belong to Zawkhèdè & its vicinity. Two of them had been baptized as children. The rest, & twenty children, I baptized on the 13th inst. Several of the women were wives of men who were received to the church two years ago. It was a most interesting occasion. The school house being far too small for the audience, the afternoon meeting with its baptisms and communion season, was held under the shade of a Banyan tree, one of Nature's own temples. This suggests that I should say ~~that~~ indeed we have no room at Shingavi large enough for the audiences I have there & five marriages which I have solemnized there, have been celebrated under the shade of a Margosa tree. Why not under the Margosa, as well as "under the mistletoe"?"

Self Support of the Churches. "In the last hot season, after good winter crops had been garnered and threshed, we made an earnest effort to secure subscriptions from all the church members & the children, for the Sustentation Fund of "the Union" which has undertaken the ~~support~~ of the pastors. In two at least of these churches, all, old & young, gave something, & several gave a full tenth of their income they had received from their fields. The meetings held at that time were unusually interesting & profitable. A good many, who had not given before specifically for the support of the pastorate, then made a beginning of giving for that purpose. ~~I trust that they will continue to give.~~

On account of the very poor crops,

But, it will be hard for farmers this year to give much for any such object. The crops of 1883-4 are, with the exception of wheat & gram, very poor. Unprecedented rains, beginning on 22d Septr, just when the jawārī (Sorghum) was being sown, lasted just a month, the rain~~ing~~ falling daily. The bājarī (Holcus spicata) blossomed during this fall of rain & as the pollen was mostly spoiled by the rain, it produced very little grain. Then after the rain ceased the farmers must still wait many a weary day before the fields became dry enough to allow them to remove the heavy crop of weeds that had been growing unchecked & then ~~to~~ too late they sowed for the winter crops. Those who could afford ~~to buy~~ it & who bought wheat and gram (Cicer arietinum) for seed are now rejoicing in the promise of a fine harvest. But those who sowed only jawārī & oil seed, have little to show for it, although the crop of oil seed may sell for enough to pay for the government land tax. Jawārī stalks are our principal reliance for fodder & though something may be done by sowing jawārī in March & irrigating it, we can thus obtain only an insufficient & expensive supply. The cattle of most farmers in this region will necessarily subsist on very small rations. Several Christian farmers will have so little to harvest that they are at their wit's end to know what to do. They borrowed & spent what are here regarded as large sums in planting fields of cotton & weeding them by hand. They did this without a fear that the out-turn might not suffice to pay their ~~[illegible]~~ expenses. But the rain spoiled the cotton, ~~to~~, & the crop is only 10 or 20 per cent of what they had confidently expected. Now they are unable to pay the money lenders or to obtain farther loans which would enable them to plough & prepare for sowing again in June & July."

Schools The village schools under my charge were more prosperous in 1883 than they have usually been. The attendance was more regular, & the scholars made better progress in their studies. More of the scholars show a real fondness for their books & ~~show~~ a determination to secure a good education. In 1883 I had an inspector, Mr Hiwale, visit & examine the schools every month & this was good for the schools. I was sorry to see a falling off of the attendance in Dec. It was owing partly to the failure of the bajari crop & partly to the demand there is at this season

To Fairbank
Jan 18/84

But they are not here yet. May a kind Providence speed their coming! As I have taken the liberty to speak of the work of the others above, I will add that my Katie & Miss Ruby H. are doing admirable work in the Girls School, having acquired an idiomatic use of the Marathi & being, naturally & by their training, first rate teachers. Miss Sarah Hume also uses the Marathi exceptionally well, & besides helping in the High School & teaching Br. H's children, does all she can to help him in his work & others in their work. There is no drone in our hive. I meant to have added above that my Katie has paid me a visit nearly every month here at Wadale & while here has gained an influence among the people, especially among the women & children which has already borne fruit for their good. The Bible women's work shows her guidance. The Bible woman who lives here has kept up the daily noon meeting of the women which K. ~~she~~ started when here in Nov. At that time she & Miss Harding were here for a week's visit as their school had a vacation then.

Report of S. B. F. for 1883.

Good health was allowed me through the year 83, & I would gladly have used it continuously in this Wadāle district. But for the latter half of the year, in the absence of Dr Ballantine, the care of the Rāhūrī &c districts was devolved upon me. Though Mr Ohol, the pastor at Rāhūrī was very efficient & helpful it was necessary that I should spend some days each month in those districts ~~visiting there~~. Then, absences, to act on examination committees; to prepare the Gospel (= Dnyānodaya) Almanac & carry it through the press; to attend the business meetings of the Mission and the Anniversary meetings in October, & to visit Bombay when sent by the Mission to help in the matter of the New House, amounted in all to a total of nearly a third of the whole year –

Then, when at home I give as much of each afternoon as is required by the sick who come for medicine & for medical treatment. They often have taken the whole afternoon. During the months in which Cholera prevailed, I could not for persons to work in the threshing floors and to watch the growing crops, and to herd the cattle. As most of the jawari fields are failures, many of the boys will have to work for their bread, till the Lord allows us another good crop. I will append to this letter a list of the schools under my care in this district, with the amount paid for the teacher, the attendance &c. I have not complete data of the attendance of the scholars in the Rāhūrī district, but will get them & send a similar list of those schools subsequently.#

The Manual Labor School at Wadālē. This school has the advantage of a skilful and enthusiastic teacher & of being under the eye of the missionary. When at home, I spend an hour daily in teaching English in this school. The higher class in English is now progressing finely. Fourteen of the boys receive a part of their support from the mission & they spend three hours of each day in manual labor. They work in the garden, or in the fields, digging, picking cotton, bringing water, chopping wood &c &c. What they earn by this helps

I was hindered & so did not finish & send this letter last week's mail - & this delay enables me to send the list of the Rahuri schools with this.

to support them. They also learn something of farming & gardening. And the work gives them healthful exercise. And in this school at least, those who work, make as good progress in their studies as those who do not. Then the sophomoric feelings & style, in which students of this country excel, are not developed so much in these boys who work as well as study.

Bible Women. At the beginning of 1883 four Bible women were employed for evangelistic work in this N.E. District. Two of them usually went together in the style of New Testament times. But this arrangement was providentially broken up and for the last part of the year, one of each pair was left to go alone unless she could find a Christian sister who had leisure to go with her

Yamunābāi died in Jan. after several days' sickness, in which there was frequently profuse bleeding from her nose. She was calm and peaceful to the end. She was thoughtful of her family and her neighbors rather than of herself and her loss seems irreparable.

Yesūbāī died from cholera in July. Her sickness began suddenly and did its work in a few hours. I think it desirable that the two who are left and who are still engaged in the work should have companions and I hope that women suitable for the work may be found.

The two Bible women in the N.W. District work from Rahuri as a centre. They worked regularly through the year, but have reported nothing concerning it that seems worth repeating to you. Mrs Bissell's visit of a week to Rahuri was helpful to them & interesting to herself.

School Mistresses. For some months of 1883 the school at Wāmbori was taught by the wife of the teacher who had been stationed there, and he went and opened a school in another village (Katraḍ) which is two miles away. She was newly married & was fresh from the Girls' School of Ahmednagar. Later in the year she became the mother of a little boy & then she had a long & severe sickness from which she has as yet only partially recovered.

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I have lately put another young wife in charge of the school at Tisgāon & she has so far succeeded well in teaching it - We have so far, been unable to obtain school-mistresses for village schools who were able to continue the work for more than a few months.

The S.P.G. missionaries complain of the course of Pastor Vithobā Bhambal at Kolhār in baptizing several persons there, who they claim were influenced by a clan feeling in leaving them and going to the church of M.B., rather than by any religious preference - When lately a company at Belāpūr became dissatisfied with our teacher & the action of the church respecting one of their clan, & asked the S.P.G. to come & receive them & open another school there, the S.P.G. missionary wrote me about it & I visited the place & did what I could to influence them for the right & then I wrote to the S.P.G. miss'y (Mr L.) giving him the reasons they had given me for going to the S.P.G. & he answered my letter very judiciously & I think the movement has been stopped.

I will let so much suffice for the present - With best wishes Yours in the good work S. B. Fairbank

Ahmednagar - Jan. 1884
Rec'd March 8th 84
In Miscellany, Children's circle?

Wadāle 20. Aug.
~~Mahābaleshwar, 19, May,~~ 1884.

Rev N. G. Clark
Sec'y, ABCFM, Dear Sir;

The building of our Mission House in Byculla, Bombay, has required an exceptionally long time. But at last, even the lawyer's work has been completed and paid for, and we can render a complete account. Desirous of having the matter settled and reported to you as soon as practicable, the Mission deputed me at our meeting in May 1883, to visit Bombay and help Br E. S. Hume, by interviewing the architect examining the accounts of Isaac, the master-builder, measuring the work done &c, so that we might write to you & thus bring the matter before the Prudential Committee.

The work was begun under the superintendence of Mr J. Morris the architect. He had prepared the plan and made a rough estimate of the cost of the whole work, and also a detailed estimate of the cost of building the house. But before even the foundations were laid, or he was ready to give a detailed estimate of the cost of the servants' houses, the stables, roads &c, he suddenly fell sick and took a furlough to England. Two master-builders whom he had employed for the work, successively proved unsatisfactory. Then Isaac was made master-builder and he carried the work through

Appropriation – Jun. 1884
Recd [illegible]

to its completion. A little before Mr Morris started for England, he entered into partnership with Mr Gostling, and it appears that after he had gone Mr Gostling, to some extent, looked after the work, although Mr Hume was not aware that he was doing it professionally. These changes resulted in complications which caused trouble and delay, but which need not be particularized here, as they were at last satisfactorily adjusted.

Soon after the estimates were made, and before a contract could be arranged, or the necessary materials purchased, a large number of buildings were begun, by government as well as by private parties, in Bombay; and prices rose rapidly. Mr Morris told me that 10% and perhaps 15% must be added to the rates of his estimate, before any contractor wd accept them and undertake the work. But as Isaac had repaired the old Press building satisfactorily, & felt confident that the work could be done within the estimates, Mr Hume decided to employ him to purchase materials and carry on the work, without giving it out by contract. This, at the time, seemed hazardous. But since I have examined Isaac's accounts, & compared the prices at which he procured the wood, stone &c, & the wages of his workmen with the rates ruling in Bombay, I am satisfied that Mr Hume's confidence in the sagacity and business ability and in the honesty of Isaac was well founded. Isaac shewed me the detailed invoices of all his purchases of materials. They were signed and stamped by those from whom he purchased them. His day-book showed the payment of wages to the workmen &c, the entries having been made at the time of payment and with sufficient detail of items to enable me to test them.

The sad result of Br Rendall's visit to Bombay for medical treatment, occurred the day after my arrival in Bombay, so that for two days we could do nothing about the building. But the four other days of my stay there, were given to measuring the work, testing & auditing the accounts, and getting information which would help to place the matter fairly before you. It was a very unpleasant surprise to us, to find that when my letter of Oct. 1882 was written, much of the material that had gone into the houses and roads, had not been paid for, nor gone into Br Hume's accounts, & that for the rest of the work we had put the items too low especially those pertaining to the roads. On this account, we were doubly careful to examine the whole thing thoroughly. Mr Hume was long unable to learn the exact amount of the expenses in the High Court which would enable us to sell the old Byculla house. Frequent calls were made on the lawyers who did the business, but the matter was not completely settled till 1 May 1884.

We have expended for the Land, Buildings, Roads, &c. as follows:-

For the Land @ one rupee per sq. yard.	Rs 7,842. 0. 0
″ Levelling, ret'g walls, roads, gate &c	2,554.15.9
″ School-house and its surroundings	7.534. 6. 0
″ House, including accommodation for the Humes & for Mr Abbott	25,074.15.9
″ Servants' houses, Cook room, stables & privy	5,498. 6. 6
″ Architects' plans, estimates & supce	2,559.14. 0
Making a total of	Rs 51.064. 2. 0

The Land cost Rs 7842. Rs 24,000 were offered for it before the houses were built. And now, aside from the buildings, it is worth still more.

The School-house, including wall, gate & privy, cost Rs 7.534. This is 1534 more than was at first asked by the mission and allowed by the Prudential Committee. And besides this an additional sum was spent for furniture &c by Br

Hume, which is now to be repaid by a Government grant-in-aid. Before the school house was built, the number of pupils attending the school had so increased, that the mission approved of erecting a larger building than was at first contemplated. Then the Bombay Municipality required the erection of an expensive privy (@ Rs 625) instead of that which had been proposed. The attendance in the school is so large that were the school-house still to be built, a larger one would be asked for.

The cost of levelling the Compound, making roads &c went entirely beyond our reckoning. It came to three times as much as we had supposed it would. So after carefully measuring the work, I made inquiries & posted myself as to the prices of such stone, "metal" (i.e. stone broken small for macadamizing) and sand, & the rolling &c required in its construction. And I found that if done by contract, the work wd cost fully as much as had been paid, with the danger of the work being slighted. I should say that some workmen had been employed now on the roads, & now on the buildings; so that we were unable to get the exact amount of the wages of the workmen for this and for that. So we divided the sum that had been paid them approximately. One eighth of the sum spent for roads, was spent in making a road to Mr Abbott's stable, and would not have been spent but for his need.

The totals of Mr Morris's first estimate were written on a plan of the yard and the house which was sent you by Mr E. S. Hume. They amounted for the house to Rs 17,300. And afterwards when the work was begun, he said that at least 10% must be added to that sum. Adding ten percent. we have Rs 19.030. Then it was estimated that Rs 3000 would be required for the additions need to give accommodation to Mr Abbott. In Oct 1881 we asked for Rs 3000, and it was allowed see Dr Clark's letter of 1 Feb 1882. Adding this we have a total of Rs 22,030 for the house, & this is not so much as it really cost. I may mention some reasons for this. Mr Morris's plan for the roof of the verandas, was to have them made of boards, and covered with dammer (a kind of pitch or resin). But when this was done, it looked so badly that the mission decided to have tiles put on like those on the roof of the house, & this was done at an expense of some Rs 300. Then when heavy rains came, it was found that the rain beat into the verandas so that it injured the walls and would weaken them. For protection, screens were put on & they cost Rs 430. By these & other changes and necessary additions to the work noted in the plans and estimates, the expenses were much increased

As to the Outhouses and stables, I should say that when the mission asked for Rs 3000 for accommodations for Mr Abbott, it was an oversight that Rs 1500 more were not also asked for supplying him with two servants' rooms and a stable.

Mr Morris put down Rs 4500 for out houses, Rs 1800 for stables, & Rs 200 for a privy; or Rs 6,500 in all. But this was done without making a detailed estimate. The privy as required to be built by the municipality, cost Rs 500. The stables for both the Humes and Mr Abbott cost Rs 1711.12.6, and the servants' houses for both including the cook room, cost Rs 3286.10.0; thus making a total of Rs 5498.6.6 which is less than the estimate of Mr Morris.

As to the cost of superintendence, Isaac received Rs 1013 for his wages. The time he was employed extended over twenty seven months. Messrs Morris and Gostling received Rs 1546.14.1, this being 5% on the cost of the work they claim to have superintended. Br Hume was inclined to contest the charge for Mr Gostling's services. But it became plain that he occasionally made professional visits, while the work was in progress, and gave directions such as architects are accustomed to give. So the bills of Messrs Morris & Gostling were paid.

The money received for the old Byculla house came in three instalments, and the last instalment was received at a late date. Mr Hume had drawn money from the Treasury of the Mission for completing the house. The balance of the last instalment has remained in the Bank; but it is now paid into the Treasury and will appear in this half yearly account. It amounts to Rs 4574.3.0 A nett sum of Rs 18.695 was received from the proceeds of the sale of the old Byculla house. Plans and estimates for changing or rebuilding that old house and then for building another on the same spot, cost Rs 521.8.0. The High Court gave authority to sell that house and the Byculla premises. The High Court charges, lawyers' fees and other expenses incurred in selling it, amount to Rs 484.8.0. The preaching ~~place~~ house in the S.E. corner of those premises was reserved, and the wall built to separate it from them, cost Rs 318.9.1. These make a total of Rs 1324.9.1; and this subtracted from the Rs20.000 received for the house and premises, left Rs 18,675.6.11 available for helping to build the new house.

The history of the action taken by the Mission from time to time with reference to the subjects referred to in this letter, and of the appropriations made by the Prudential Committee in regard to them, is not as complete as we could wish; but it seems necessary that we should refer to the principal points of it.

At our May meeting in 1879 we voted (Res 8) to ask Rs10.000, in addition to Rs2000 which had been previously allowed for repairing the old Byculla house, for raising the ground and rebuilding the house, out houses and walls. And this request was allowed. See Dr Clark's letter of 30 July 1879.

At our meeting in Oct 1879 (see Res 7) we approved of selling our Byculla property, reserving the building used for a preaching place & school, and purchasing a vacant lot nearly opposite the Jewish synagogue for about Rs1 per sq. yard, provided the expense do not exceed the sum granted (i.e. Rs12000) plus the old property. This was approved by the Prudential Committee, see Dr Clark's letter of 24 Dec. 1879.

At the same meeting (see Res. 8) the Bombay Building Committee was authorized to erect the new school house (proposed in Rs 9 of May 1880) on the new premises for a sum not to exceed Rs 6000. The approval of this by the Prudential Committee was signified in a letter of Dr Clark to Mr E.S. Hume, and this grant of Rs 6000 is referred to in Dr Clarks letter of 12 Jan 1882, as allowed. At the same meeting the B'y B'g Com. presented a plan for the new house and it was approved by the mission.

At our meeting in Oct 1880 (see Res. 5) the B'y B'g Com. was authorized to build the school house and the house on the new premises in accordance with the plans and estimates that were presented by that Com. A copy of the plan they proposed (prepared by Mr Norris) which showed the arrangement of the whole premises, as well as plans of the houses, school house and proposed dispensary, with the totals of the estimated expenses for them noted on the margin, was prepared for the Prudential Committee, and Mr E.S. Hume is sure that he sent it to you. But our Secretary has received no acknowledgment of its reception at Boston.

In his letter of 8 Dec. 1880, Dr Clark acknowledged the receipt of the minutes of our Oct. 1880 meeting, and as nothing of the action we had taken was disallowed we went on to build as we had planned. But not finding any reference to our action concerning this matter in Dr Clark's subsequent letters, in Oct 1881 (see Res. 1 of the Minutes of that meeting,) we renewed our request for an appropriation of Rs 12000 and also one of Rupees 6000 for the School house.

On 16 Dec. 1881, Dr Clark writes that "the grant for the house at Bombay i.e. $6000 may be taken at the gold rate" Mr Ward in his letter to Mr Gates of 16 May 1882, reckon these $6.000 as equal to Rupees 14,285.75 - Dr Clark referred in the above explanation to his letter of 12 Nov. 1881 in which he informed us that $6000 were allowed. Dr Clark ~~refers~~ again ~~to~~ this allowance in his letter of 12 Jan. 1882. But in the first of these letters he writes "We have no estimate at hand, expressing what would be required" & the two following letters were based on this first one. All three of them would doubtless have been modified had the estimates been at hand.

On the 16 May 1882 Mr Ward wrote to Mr Gates that the Committee had voted Rs 5.000 more in answer to the request of the mission.

We had definitely expected that the buildings would have been completed early in 1883. Afterwards we came to expect that they would have been completed and the accounts rendered before the middle of 1883. But in this also we were disappointed.

We have now tried to lay the whole matter fairly & fully before you and hope there is nothing which will seem obscure or mistaken or which will require further explanation. The state of the case, so far as sanction is needed, seems to be as follows:- Rs 1534 have been expended for the school house from the funds of the Am. Board which have not been allowed by the Prudential Committee. No allowance has been made for the roads which cost Rs 2488. Nor has any allowance been made for the out houses for Mr Abbott. We meant to have asked Rs 1500 on acct of them. Rs 2568.15.1 have been expended for the house in excess of the sums we thought were allowed for it. Indeed to meet the whole sum which has been expended for the new premises & buildings from the Treasury of the Board, which amounts to Rs 51,064.2.0 we have only the following assets, viz The proceeds from the sale of the old house Rs 18,675.6.11
The $6000 grant equal to Rs 14.285.12.0

The allowance for rooms for Mr Abbott	Rs 3000.0.0
The allowance for the School house	Rs 6,000.0.0
The allowance of May 1882	Rs 5,000.0.0
In all a total of	Rs 46961.2.11

With the approval of the mission a dormitory for the school boys has been built on the premises at an expense of Rs 6,600, without drawing from the funds of the American Board.

We hope that the Prudential Committee will excuse what has been done irregularly and will sanction the expenditure of what has been expended in excess of their previous allowances.

In behalf of the Mission.

Yours faithfully

S. B. Fairbank

51.064.20
46961.24

4103.

Wadale, Aug. 20, 1884.
Rec'd Sept. 27.

4103 Ro

P. C.

Refer to Sub. Com

Ahmednagar 24 Jan. 1885.

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.
Sec'y A.B.C.F.M. Boston Mass. U.S.A.

The year 1884, the 38th year of my missionary life, has closed and I must give you a report of my work in it, and of the missionary operations in my charge, and also notice other matters that have seriously affected them. It was not an eventful year and I fear that my report will seem bare and uninteresting to you.

The time was, and it does not seem to me long ago, when three of our mission families resided in the valley of the Godāvari. And both those missionaries and their wives, found their hands and hearts fully occupied. The part of the valley in which Christians in our connection are scattered is seventy miles long by thirty miles wide. The superintendence of our mission operations in all that broad land, during the last year, fell on my shoulders, and they are somewhat bent and weakened by age. I was unable to do any of the work as thoroughly as it should have been done, and I was obliged to refrain from attempting many things which I saw were urgently required. I encourage the pastors to do everything they can. But they are not very selfreliant nor enterprising and are too ready to come to me for advice. There are a few more than a thousand Christians connected with the ten churches in the valley. Seven of them have pastors. Of the other three, two depend on the pastoral services of Mr Ohol pastor of the Kāhiri church and one depends on my services.

I was happy to help this church in securing the services of Mr Vithobā Sansārē when he was graduated from our Theological Seminary in October. He is their preacher now; but they do not incline to call him to be their pastor, as they expected to do in Oct. More intimate acquaintance has led many of them to think that he is not the man they need. They also hesitate to assume the support of a pastor. Their crops of 1883-4 were barely enough and in some cases not enough to pay the government assessment on their land! We had very little rain in June, July & August of 1884; so that there was no sowing even for the rainy season crops. The rains were favorable in Sept. and Oct. and we hoped they would prove sufficient to perfect the cold season crops. But before the end of Nov. the crops began to wither or turn yellow, and it was soon evident that unless rain should fall, both the wheat and the sorghum would dry up without producing grain. But no one dared to expect rain in Dec., Yet the Lord rebuked our weak faith by sending it. It began on the 19th of Dec. and the precious drops fell day after day for a whole week. Almost five inches were allowed us at Wadale; Only half so much fell at Ahmednagar. But even that half was sufficient to revive the sorghum in most fields, so that it will give a fair crop both of fodder and grain. Some fields were past recovery, and I am sorry to say that that was the case with part of the fields of the Shingavé church members. What with paying the gov't assessment and money they borrowed to struggle on through the year in which both the *rabi* (Cold Season) and *kharif* (rainy season) crops had failed, they find the present *rabi* crop all too small to feed themselves and their cattle, till they can harvest the next

Kharif crop in the coming Oct. & Nov. of ~~[illegible]~~. I do not wonder that they hesitate to assume the responsibility of supporting a pastor".

It was very unusual & remarkable that such a rain should be allowed us in Dec. About eighteen years ago, three inches of rain fell on 30 Nov to 2 Dec. I recollect three spells of rain in Jan., one of which lasted three days. But a week of rain in Decr, saving this and the Solāpūr region from scarcity if not from famine, is unprecedented in my long experience and I do not find an account of such a rain before. "Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness and for His wonderful works to the children of men!" Here in the Dakhan, where all the water we have, comes to us as rain, it seems strange that all do not recognize our dependence on Providence.

The Shingavé church is ~~also~~ hindered in its desires to settle a pastor by the scattered state of its membership. Shingavé is the principal village at the Western end of the long parish. Zawakhédé is the principal village at the Eastern end. ~~Now~~ The Zawakhédé group is asking to be organized into a separate church, and the division will probably be made. Still the same pastor could officiate for both churches although the centres would be 16 or more miles apart. That is he could do what the last pastor did and what I attempt to do, as this church is now under my pastoral care.

"The Rāhātē church is also scattered over a large area. Its 110 members reside in 30 villages. The most distant of these is more than 20 miles away from the pastor's residence. Pastor Bhāmbal is an active man and is ever going from place to place. But he can visit some of his church members only at long intervals, and it must be a special occasion that will bring together all the members of his widely scattered church. An unusual number was received to the communion of the Rāhātē church in 1884. But the pastor does not report any special manifestation of the Spirit's influences.

"In the latter part of the year special interest in religion was manifested in two villages, Katrad and Zawakhèdè, which are some twenty two miles apart. And it seems to be spreading in the vicinity of Zawakhèdè". I am sorry that I am hindered by an obstinate cold, which has nearly laid me aside from my work, & by an ebb-tide in my general health, from entering into the special work that is needed in both those places. There is no special interest that I am aware of in any other part of the Valley.

Schools. There were 35 Common schools under my charge during 1884. Faithful supervision of these schools would have occupied a large part of my time. But I found it necessary to be content with the work of the two inspectors, one of whom, being a student of theology, was away from the valley for five months of the year.

Only a part of these schools flourished. It was a hard year for the poor. There was plenty of grain in the country, and the prices were not high; but owing to the failure of the Sorghum crop, those who depend on what the farmers give them as hakks, received very little, and they were obliged to eke out their scanty living as best they could. Many of the children were taken from school and put at work by which they might earn their bread.

then there was no bājari crop. So, the whole year was unpropitious for our village schools. The parents have a general desire that their children should attend school. But they will not learn that regularity of attendance and punctuality are necessary to success in study. Although these schools have had the advantage of a monthly examination by an inspector, it is very desirable that the missionary should visit them frequently. The teachers as well as the scholars and their parents need the incitement which such visits give. I am sorry that during the last year I was able to visit the schools only to a limited extent.

The Manual Labor School at Wadālē. The specialty of this school is that fourteen of the scholars, who are brought in from other villages and receive part of their support, make up the rest by manual labor. They work three hours a day for five days of the week, and on Saturday they go and collect the fuel needed for cooking their food during the succeeding week. This plan has several advantages. It provides in part for the boys' expenses. They learn something of farming and gardening, or of some handicraft.

So much bodily labor is healthful exercise & is not excessive. I find that they study with more zest and make as good or even better progress in study than those who have all their time for study. And "the sophomoric effect of education, where people in general cannot read, & which usually comes from knowing a little more than others, is lessened."

We have an excellent intermediate school at Nagar, in which a number of boys, chosen by competition at annual examinations from the best scholars of the village schools, are supported a year & in some cases two years, as we are raising the standards, while they make special preparation for entering the Normal School of the C.V.E. Soc. There were in this school during the last year, eight boys whom I called "my boys" because they came from the district which is under my care. There is no opportunity for employing these boys at hand work for a part of the day. At the examination in Oct. only one of these eight boys passed and entered the Normal School. The same year there were five boys in the Wadālē school studying the same standard. Three of them were manual labor scholars, and the fourth was an orphan living with a relative who required him to work out of school hours. These four all passed in the examination and entered the Normal School.

"After watching the results of education, with and without manual labor for several years, I am decidedly of opinion, that two or three hours daily of vigorous work in the open air, is promotive of progress in study as well as conducive to health. And if such work can be made remunerative, so as partially to support the scholars it is so much the more desirable."

Bombay 30 Jan 1885 There were some other points to which I intended to refer. But I was so busily occupied with matters which called for immediate attention that this report was not finished. A principal reason for my coming to Bombay now, was the hope that it would benefit my health, which has been below par for two months. The apparent cause of my inefficiency has been an obstinate cold which gave me headache

& indigestion with more or less throat trouble, & later, catarrh & stiff joints, not fairly rheumatic but troublesome. I tried the power of change of place, by vibrating between Wadāle & Rāhūri & going to Ahmednagar & to Poona to act as one of the Prize awarders at the Agricultural Exhibitions which were held in those places. But the cure was not complete. And I was particularly troubled by finding that my memory & indeed my brain power in general, was even weaker than it had been through the year 1884. I worked beyond my strength through the year. There seemed no help for it, & yet I was harassed with knowing that many things in my charge greatly needed the attention which I was unable to give them. So I remained in a jaded & fagged condition. I arranged to get a vacation & go to the Palani Hills for Aug & Sept. But it proved necessary that I s^{d} stay for the examination of Candidates for becoming 2^{d} Grade Catechists & I reluctantly gave up the vacation. This is really the reason that this cold & its attendant weakness are so persistent. I trust that nothing will detain Dr Ballantine after he graduates from

Andover in May "takes adieu," as the English say. You know that I have acted for him in his absence. Unless something occur providentially of which there is now no sign, there is no need in our Mission work more pressing than the need for his (~~&~~ with his wife & ~~&c~~) return to R. & renewal of his work in that district.

Another reason for my coming to Bombay at this time was to meet the Mission Conference and give them my views with regard to what is necessary to make our church members from among the Mahārs & other parasitic castes independent & so capable of sustaining "self supporting" churches & other Xn institutions. These churches can never become stably self supporting till their membership ceases to be parasitic. I see no better occupation for most of them than farming. There is now a favorable time for securing land for farming purposes, as we have had three unfavorable consecutive harvests, & the new Assessment of ground rent by Govt. (assessed for the next 30 years) will come into force over a large part of the valley of the Godāvari, next month. It is much enhanced on the the last 30 years' assessment & is double in some cases. I anticipate that many fields will be relinquished by their present holders. I wish to make a vigorous effort for securing a part of these fields for the Mahars & to educate them, agriculturally somewhat & help them to become farmers. And thirdly I am trying to get help in this from liberal minded natives here in Bombay. I am asking them to make some small loans to such as would begin farming, on the principles of "agricultural banks". I hope also that Govt. may be influenced so as to help Mahars & other outcastes to secure independent means of support.

Sir Wm. Wedderburn, who was a judge at at Ahmednagar & has been advocating "agricultural banks" for years, & who is now a judge in the High Court of Bombay, will be a leader still in this line of influencing Govt., & I hope also in influencing Native gentlemen to invest their money to a small extent for this great charity - great in its expected results; But help or aid, rather than charity is what I want. I am to call on Sir Wm. Wedderburn about this matter today. I have no time for more by this mail. Yours faithfully

S. B. Fairbank

Rev. S. B. Fairbank, 65
Ahmednagar, Jan. 24. '85.
Rec'd. Mch. 3.

(Wadālē) Ahmednagar 7 Ap. 1885.

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.
Sec'y A.B.C.F.M. Dear Sir

I have been on the move ever since the inception of the matter about which I am to write, or I should have written sooner.

My efforts for years have been specially directed to helping these village churches become independent and self sustaining. Their membership is mostly from the Mahar Caste - that is from those who were Mahars & their children. And it is a pity that most of the children are desirous of holding onto their inheritance as Mahars.

I was convinced, years ago, that a churches composed of those who subsisted on their perquisites as Mahars, and consequently remained in a dependent & subject condition, could never become stable & independent. The means of living of Mahars are not only precarious, but are largely controlled at will by their masters, the *Kunabis* (people of the Farmer Caste), who are idolaters. The amount of their perquisites is regulated only by custom & varies much with the caprices of the farmers.

And of late they have often been witheld in part, & sometimes entirely - In some cases indeed they have been permanently alienated -

My opinions on this matter were confirmed from year to year; and some years ago I began to help individual Christians to escape from their bondage and to support themselves and their families by some independent business - Carting was an occupation that promised well, and some who undertook it have succeeded - Others have failed - A few obtained places in the police force - A few enlisted in the Army - Some learned the business of stone-cutting - Some became servants in the families of missionaries and in English families, &c. &c. But most of these occupations took them away from their villages and made them wanderers. Gradually farming secured my approval, as the best occupation for most of them. And my endeavors have been more & more to start them as farmers. First to help them procure oxen and the necessary implements & undertake the cultivation of their ancestral fields - These they had usually rented to farmers for a small sum above the tax they must pay for them to govt. - & then, as soon as they could, to secure the occupancy of fields as *rayats*, like the *Kunabis*, & thus become full-blown farmers.

The long succession of unfavorable seasons, (for we have had only one favorable year since the famine of 1877,) has proved very trying to all farmers and particularly so to these new hands. But there is no occupation which has not been badly affected by these unfavorable seasons, and farming still offers better than anything else.

While I was in Bombay, two months ago, I had an opportunity for presenting and advocating my views on the above subject before the B'y Mis'y Conference. There were more than 60 present (missionaries & friends of missions) and the views presented proved generally interesting -

Especially Mr Birdwood, one of the judges of the High Court, was so much interested, that he asked me to come to his house two evenings later & he would invite some editors & some public spirited Native gentleman who he was sure would like to hear me speak on the subject - He carried out the plan & the select audience was so much interested in the subject that time slipped by unnoticed & it was nearly 1 a.m. when our attention was called to the ~~hour~~ time & we separated - There were reports of the meeting printed in several English & Native papers - Mr Grattan Geary the Ed. of the By Gazette, who was present, asked me for full notes as without them he might omit important points in giving a report of my address. So the next day I wrote it out in as condensed a form as I could, & he printed it as an Editorial, putting in my name here & there - So I have the pleasure to enclose a copy - as it gives a fair summary of my views on the subject.

The **BOMBAY GAZETTE SUMMARY.** 13. Feb. 1885.

SETTING UP THE OUTCASTES IN BUSINESS.

HOWEVER eulogistic the language in which the Secretary of State's letter in connection with Sir William Wedderburn's scheme for Agricultural Banks was couched, it was fully understood that the promise to look into the matter at some future date was a virtual shelving of the scheme. But the favour which it met with, both from the Bombay and the Indian Governments, has been enough to encourage others to put forward proposals of a similar nature. \\ At a recent private meeting of a few sympathising English and native friends, Dr. Fairbank, of the American Mission at Ahmednuggur, invited their cooperation in a scheme for improving the condition of the Mahārs, Māngs, and other Atisūdras in the Deccan. He represented that these classes were parasitic, and entirely dependent upon the farming class for their living. Circumstances having strained the relations between the two, it was necessary to provide some independent occupation for the Mahārs, and he found nothing so suitable as farming. All that was required, he said, was a little preliminary help from capitalists in lending small sums of money to enable them to make a start. Such an investment, he thought, would be fairly profitable. His case, fully stated, is this. In the Deccan village system the farmers are the producers. The artizans who live inside the village boundaries, and the lower castes or outcastes who live outside the village boundaries, are, so far as they are parts of the village system, only consumers. They do, each in his trade or occupation, whatever work the farmers require, and receive for wages a part of the produce of the field. The great advantage of the system, Dr. Fairbank says, is that each one does what he is hereditarily born to do, asking no compensation at the time, but claiming his percentage of the crops raised in the village. The services rendered by the Mahārs are as multifarious as they are anomalous. They act as gatekeepers, and as carriers of burdens from village to village. They help the village headmen and scribes to collect the revenue, and convey the money collected to the mamlatdars. They perform the work of postmen and messengers between villages, and the Government and village authorities. They are told off for menial service whenever a Government officer visits the village. They have to pitch his tent, chop his wood, and bring fodder and other supplies. When the camp is raised, they have to fetch carts for transport and act as coolies. Each man is generally hereditarily attached to some cultivator's family, whose drudge he is. Amongst their other duties the Mahārs must remove all dead animals, keep the village rest-house and its surroundings clean, and in the cold season provide heaps of fuel for the village fires.

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\\ The Mahārs have in most villages, says Dr. Fairbank, become far more numerous than is necessary for the work they have to do. They therefore are obliged to do the work by turns, a part of them performing the duties and receiving the perquisites of the Mahārki for one year, and another part doing the same another year. But there are villages where the turn comes only once in ten or twelve years. Those who are not employed by the village have then to find something to do for a living. Some become day labourers under the farmers; others go to cities to pick up work, and mostly become servants to Europeans. Some get carts and gain a living by hawking about grain, cotton, salt, and such other things. Others raise goats, trade in cattle, or work on the roads. Some engage in farming. But so strong is their regard for their ancestral inheritance as Mahars that when their turn comes for doing the village Mahar work they will give up any other occupation and engage in this, which they regard as honourable, being specially their own. Among the fifty-two kinds of perquisites that they are, according to the village system, entitled to, are dead animals. As soon as a cow, or an ox, or a sheep dies, it belongs by right to the Mahārs. This has led to great abuses, and has been the fruitful cause of cattle-poisoning. Consequently a bitter feud is constantly waging between the Mahārs and the farmers. For leather has increased in value, and gradually the farmers come to claim the hides of dead animals. The Mahārs regard this as an infringement on their rights. The farmers on their side are afraid of the Mahārs revenging themselves for the loss of their perquisites by killing oxen. And the Mahārs do not hesitate to intimidate the farmers who withhold these perquisites, by obscure hints as to the death of oxen. Of late the farmers in their turn have tried to intimidate the Mahārs by threats of personal violence, in case their oxen should die. About a month ago the villagers of Astègaum, a place some fifty miles to the north of Ahmednagar, having suspected that the Mahārs had poisoned some of their oxen, fell on them with clubs and axes, and gave them a fearful beating, breaking bones and inflicting serious wounds. A similar affray occurred at Karazgān, a village some 25 miles north-east of Ahmednagar. The ill-feeling already existing between these classes is likely to lead to many such affrays. Dr. Fairbank says that though the hostile feeling is to a great extent latent, it may blaze out far more destructively. He therefore sees imperative reasons for taking means to allay this mutual irritation. What is wanted is to provide the Mahārs with some profitable employment by means of which they might themselves become producers and cease to be parasitic and dependent. It would be for the welfare of the Mahārs themselves, as well as of the farmers and the people generally, he asserts, if the present system were entirely abolished, and the Mahārs were hired to do the work required of them. They might, if it were thought desirable, be paid at harvest time, as they are paid now. Such a plan would do away with the forcible claiming of service from the Mahārs by the

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villagers with whom they are at feud. And nothing, thinks Dr. Fairbank, suggests itself as a good occupation which might lift the Mahārs from their present low estate better than farming. It would, he thinks, be a useful experiment to lend small sums of money to such Mahārs as seem best suited for transformation into farmers. Many of them have been and are employed as field labourers by farmers, and know the business fairly well. They only need a sum sufficient to buy a yoke of oxen and farming implements, and for a supply of fodder for those oxen and food for themselves and families, until their first crop is harvested. At present a good yoke of oxen can be bought for sixty rupees. There is a plough, that can be made for eight or ten rupees, which is so easy of draft that a single yoke of oxen can draw it in the heaviest soils. The other tools ought not to cost more than five additional rupees; and six or seven rupees a month will supply the grain and fodder required to live on till harvest. In all one hundred and fifty rupees would suffice for these items of outfit.

For recovering this sum, with interest, a plan similar to that proposed for agricultural banks is suggested by Dr. Fairbank, and to some extent it has been found feasible. He proposes that the sum lent to each individual should amount to about Rs. 150, for which 6 per cent. should be charged. The interest on this sum for the first year would amount to Rs. 9. Dr. Fairbank suggests that the borrower should at the end of the year pay this interest and at least Rs. 9 extra to the lender. This last sum should go towards reducing the debt. The next year he would have to pay interest on Rs. 141 only. At this rate he could go on wiping out the principal year by year, being allowed to make his instalments as large as possible during years of good harvest. At this rate, he thinks, the whole debt could be paid off in nine or ten years at least. He freely admits that in such a transaction no security is available. There was a time, he says, when a man's word was considered the best security in India. The use of the law courts for obtaining better security has, he thinks, injured both the lender and the borrower all through India. It is only by careful selection of the men to whom money is advanced that the danger of loss can be minimized. Dr. Fairbank himself, last year, lent to eighteen Christians who were originally of the Mahār caste the money necessary for paying the last instalment due for the rent of their fields to Government. The whole sum amounted to somewhat less than Rs. 500. But the amount was of less importance than the fact that the whole was paid, with interest, before the end of the year. It is necessary to success in such a transaction, he thinks, to insist on the payment of the interest each year, and on as large an instalment towards the principal as the crops realized will allow. The persons helped should understand that though given in kindness the loan is in no sense a charity. Their sense of honour and self-respect should be carefully regarded and stimulated. The present year he considers very favourable for the commencement of such an undertaking, for there are chances of land being obtained at reasonable rates in the Ahmednagar Collectorate, otherwise it might have been difficult to obtain suitable lands for the Mahārs to cultivate. The farmers' resources were taxed to the utmost to retain their land through the last year. The cold season crop of 1883-4 was very scant except on black soil sowed with wheat or gram. The Jowārī was generally a failure; only the Karadi oilseed, which was planted mixed with the Jowārī, gave an unusually large return, and enabled those whose fields were of light soil to pay the Government rent. Then there was not sufficient rain in June, July, and August to allow of sowing cotton or Bājrī and the other kharif crops. Rain fell in September and October which it was hoped would suffice for maturing the jowārī, wheat, and other rabī crops. But by the beginning of December it was plain that unless there was a fall of rain, the jowārī crop would dry up without producing grain. To the astonishment of all, a plentiful rain began on the 19th of December, and continued for a ~~time~~ week, Some fields were past recovery, but most were revived, and will give a fair amount of grain. But this month the new thirty years' assessment comes into force, and on many fields the rent exacted by Government will be greatly increased on the rate that was paid during the last thirty years. This, Dr. Fairbank is of opinion, will prove so heavy a burden, after the small returns received from their fields for the last three harvests that many farmers will be found ready to part with ~~their~~ their right of occupancy of land for a small price or will even give it up to Government without any remuneration. The year 1885 will doubtless be one in which land will be sold for a comparatively small price. He therefore asks capitalists to invest in farm lands in the Ahmednagar Collectorate, and allow those who commence farming to take the land they need and pay for it by instalments, receiving the title for it when they have paid up its full price, and the interest that has accrued on the investment. Such a course would, he says, answer two purposes. It would secure a fair return for the money invested and so be a success financially, and would bring men out of a state of enfeebling dependence and so prove a success philanthropically."

Judge Birdwood afterwards took counsel with Mr Kittredge (a Bostonian who was of the firm of Stearns Hobart &Co,) & has sent me word that they intend, with the help of others who are interested, to send me Rs 1500 to use in starting some Mahars as farmers - I hope that similar efforts will be made by others in different places & that the result will be the establishment of Agricultural Banks, for loaning farmers the money they need, at a reasonable rate of interest & receiving the principal back in small instalments, during a series of years - If our plan works successfully, we shall have imitators -

Another gentleman of the Civil service on reading this article in the Gazette, at once entered warmly into the plan - He has sent me several hundred rupees - asking that I will use them in this way in the Master's service, but allow him to remain incog. He wishes to help Mhars only - telling them that the help is from a far brother who wishes to remain unknown - but who demands that they shall use it faithfully, as stewards of the Master, remembering that it is the Lord's money.

I have selected some for help & I hope & pray that I may be enabled to do my part in the matter so carefully, that there will be no failures as to the proper use of, and as to refunding, the money.

We are now in the middle month of the Hot Season. Most of our mission circle have found it necessary to go to "the Hills" The Dr Bissells & I are allowed to stay at our work; although they (the Bissells) are away from home for 3 days to attend the Camp meeting at Lonāulī - And the E. S. Humes do not propose to go to Mahābaleshwar till the 15th inst - Mrs A. S. Bissell was ill of fever after arriving at Mahāb.. & up to the date of my last information was still sick. I am sorry that I have no specially interesting news of our work to tell - We are to assemble for our business meeting in May & try to compress our necessities, so as to wear the proposed shoe, But it will pinch savagely. Yours faithfully S. B. Fairbank

Ahmednagar, April 7-1883
Rec'd May 11

Ahmednagar, 18 Jan, 1886.

To the Rev N. G. Clark, D.D.
Secy A.B.C.F.M., Dear Sir

Our New Year is clouded by the severe sickness of Dr Bissell. It began with an abscess in his right ear which was so painful before it broke for several days and nights as to entirely prevent work or sleep. Soon after it broke, his nose began bleeding & the flow was not stopped till both nostrils were plugged with lint saturated with perchloride of Iron. After these had remained 8 or 9 hours they were carefully withdrawn & we hoped the bleeding had been permanently stopped. But six hours later it began again & was not stopped by the plugs which were put in the back nares through the mouth as well as in front. The blood trickled into his throat and mouth still for 4 hours he spit out a large clot (some were a mouthful) every 5 minutes. Then the flow was diminished by gargles of Gallic Acid which he was able to force up from his throat, And after the plugs were withdrawn, snuffing powdered Gallic acid proved the best remedy & in 24 hours the oozing of blood was entirely stopped. But he had become so weak that he could not lift his head from the pillow or sit up in bed without being supported. ~~But~~ The fever which we had thought was from the abscess, did not abate when it broke, nor from the bleeding. But God blessed the means used. Dr Batty, the civil surgeon who was called when we could not at first stop the bleeding by the use of alum & cold applications, continued to call frequently and to adapt his medicines to the changing condition of the patient. Now for five days days there has been little feverish heat though the pulse is sometimes up to a hundred a minute and there is an unpleasant feeling in his head especially in his forehead, & the abscess continues to discharge a little. Every effort has been made to give him strength. But though he can now sit bolstered up in an easy chair for an hour at a time twice a day, he gains very slowly. We would like to take him to Khandālā or Bombay for a change of air & to relieve him from the continual suggestions here that his yearly report has not been written & various work he had in hand needs his attention &c. If he could *rest* in mind as well as body, we think he wd gain faster. But Dr Batty insists that even the motion of a railcar wd. doubtless bring on the nose-bleed again, & that he must not be moved for some days yet. He also insists that arrangements be made for his going to a temperate climate before the hot season begins. He says that in his 20 years practice in India he has had large experience of such sickness from over work & that though he might be patched up, he wd surely have recurring sickness & very likely ~~entirely~~ finally break down in the hot season. Dr Batlantine also has come in from Rāhuri & he will make his home here for some months. This is a better place for Mrs Ballantine to study the Marāthī & to begin her life in India than a village station. And Dr B. can go to the Northern limit of his field by the railroad in three hours. Dr Ballantine agrees with Dr Beatty in advising a change to the U.S.A. for Dr Bissell. Mrs Bissell says that he was not so weak & low after his previous sicknesses -

Though we are very short handed, & especially he is needed here, we submit to the manifest decision of Providence & I have sent a circular embodying the doctors' opinion and advice, and proposing that we take the responsibility of procuring passage for Dr B. to America by the Anchor Line of Steam Ships - to begin in the Belgravia that is to sail on 6 March. The Gates with George Harding and the Smiths from Jaffna with my daughter Mary D. have already taken passage in the Belgravia so that Dr Bissell will have good company, & care if necessary - I hope to get the opinions of all the mission on this proposition before sending this letter - The formal circular will not return from its circuit till a later date - then I will send it to you.

Mrs Bissell is always sick when on the ocean & would be unable to help Dr B. if she were to go with him. She also thinks that she does not now need the change herself - Then also in the [illegible] providence of God her daughter Emily has lately arrived to live & work with her, although Dr B. must go away. With her concurrence I have proposed in the same circular that she have charge of the work in the districts South of Ahmednagar as well as continue her work here.

And I have also headed a proposition that we approve of asking that Miss Emily Bissell be appointed an Assistant Missionary by the Prud. Committee. In the absence of Dr Bissell, according to our rules Mrs B's allowances would not suffice for both herself & Miss Emily. Miss Emily had not lost her use of the Marathi & uses it & understands its idioms as spoken by others, as those only who used it in youth can do. She has given herself from the beginning of her renewed Indian life to the mission work in schools & with the women she meets. And her health is better than it was in Am. thus far, & we trust it will continue good.

Though we must lose for a time the invaluable service of Dr. Bissell, we hope ~~xx~~ hope that he will in God's best time be restored to us & this work & that God will help us to, in some measure, fill the blank in his absence.

19 Jan 86. I have rec'd letters from all the members of our Mission approving of our engaging passage in the Belgravia &c for Dr. Bissell. & so I have informed the Com. asp to engage & pay for the passage & hope the passage is already engaged.

Rooms [illegible] of B. F. [illegible]

Ahmednagar 18 Jan 1886 continued.

I must add a few words about my own health and expectations. Nearly forty years have passed since in May 1846 we sailed from Boston, reaching Bombay in Sept of the same year. For many years I suffered from articular rheumatism, but at last found a cure in lemon juice & lime juice. Since 1870, it has not troubled me much, for when a joint became stiff or painful, the use of lime juice for a few nights taken on an empty stomach has been blessed to its relief. The hot seasons have worn upon me & for several of them, attacks of enteritis that laid me aside from work for three weeks or a month, are not forgotten. They were aggravated by the ipecac, &c. which doctors prescribed. But by fasting or rather restricting my food to within two ounces a day till the inflammation subsided & by change of place, the vigorous constitution with which the Lord endowed me, overcame the enemy & gave me health again. During the last two hot seasons this enemy has not troubled me much. When there were signs of an attack I stopped the commissariat supplies & the attack was slight. But for two years, during Dr Ballantine's absence I have had charge of the Rahuri district as well as of the one I call my own. The work and care that seemed absolutely necessary in all that Valley were more than I could overtake, and it has been bitter to know that pressing work was neglected. Then, from

August to Oct, inclusive of each year it has been necessary for me to take part in examinations; the yearly examination of all our teachers & native agents & the examination of candidates for the position of Second Grade Catechists - & this year the Exn of the Normal school of the C.V.E.S. which I make alone. - The Ang & Mission meetings requiring preparation & the use of every power of mind & heart, followed the Examinations - These in addition to the work in the Godāwarī valley, have greatly exhausted me. Then in Dec. it proved necy, in order to have the Gospel Almanac, that I should prepare it & it required each time fourteen working days of close application - In consequence of these extra duties, the posting of my accounts to my ledger has fallen for three or four months in arrears & as my memory has become like a sieve, this has caused me & others much trouble and vexation. When I am very tired, my memory refuses to act. Last year my usual elasticity left me before the end of Aug. & was not regained for six months - This year I was troubled, in addition to the exhaustion from continual pegging away at excessive work, by some venomous boils that kept up their succession till an attack of ophthalmia prevented work for two weeks. Since my eyes have got well, I have found my health better. The return of Dr Ballantine has taken off part of the care & given me hope that I may, after a fashion, do what demands to be done in my field & especially in the church of which I am the acting pastor. But to do the work in the Godavari valley as it should be done, ~~&~~ if we would properly expect the harvest that should be reaped there, ~~a~~ three mission families are required. I see farmers with twice as much land as they can properly cultivate. Their whole crop is not so large as it w^d be from from half the land properly cultivated. And I see ~~a~~ similar results in mission work, or rather failures for similar reasons. For the region around Rahuri, now that Dr Ballantine has returned, I hope better things. For the region around Wadale I had hoped to be now engaged in itinerating work & I trust that my son Henry will be allowed, in the good providence of God with his helpmeet, to undertake it next August. Dr Bissell's sickness has required me to stay here for two weeks & his absence will require me to visit Ah^d. at least twice a month. An active life is best for me. An average of six hours a day at sedentary work, writing, accounts, correspondence &c is all my health will allow. With so many teachers & agents under my care, my Marathi correspondence takes much time. Last year I asked for an allowance for a writer to help me. But this was not allowed. You had not the data for understanding how much I needed it. I have all along tried to do what I could & cast my care for the rest on the Master, biding His time & trusting in His providential help.

At our last Oct. meeting my health seemed so poor that the need of a furlough was forced on the attention of the mission. Res.n 3 of our minutes was passed approving of my asking permission to visit Am. I thought to ask it at this time & to take it in Aug. or Sept., when Henry should have taken my station at Wadale. You may remember that seven years ago, after the Lord took my Mary, the Prud. Com. invited me to visit America. Since then, I have held on with the thought that when it should be found necessary for me to go, the Prud. Com. would allow it. More than 14 years have passed since the summer of 1871 when I came out the last time and considering my poor health during the last half of both 84 & 85, I have no doubt that a visit to Am. is highly desirable. But for the present Providence hedges my way. When it shall appear that I can go without great detriment to the work, I think that not only my own higher good, but my fitness for future work here will be better attained by thus taking a change & rest and by mixing again with Am. xn. society & again breathing the air of Am.n religious earnestness. I trust the Lord will allow me to see not only Henry but also Edward enlisted in this regiment.

He has still one year of study before his course will be completed. If I am allowed to work on till I shall be 70 years old.

S. B. Fairbank, D.D.,
Ahmednagar, Jan. 18, 1886,
Rec'd Feb. 23.

Ahmednagar 15 Feby 1886

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Sec A.B.C.F.M.,

Dear Bro. It is matter of great thankfulness that Dr Bissell is slowly gaining strength. But he gains very slowly & the doctors were surely wise in insisting on his taking a furlough to the U.S.A. When he had so far recovered that I could be spared I went to Wadalé for a week & then returned to meet ~~the~~ Thos. Snell Smiths from Jaffna. You know that Mrs Smith is my daughter, Emily. They came this way in going to Am. for a visit & to see my home & work. I am glad to find that it has cost them but little more to reach Bombay (by Str. to Negapatam & Railroads the rest of the way) than it would have cost them from Jaffna to Columbo. It w'd have cost a little more but w'd have been better had they brought their luggage with them instead of sending it by a freight train. And the passage from By to New York has been obtained for the exceptionally low rate of Rs 1560 for the family, which consists of two adults & four children. At present rates of exchange, this is for about $600. It is doubtful whether they could have secured a passage so cheaply from Columbo.

But our plan for their entering with me into my work for a time has been providentially hindered. They arrived here at daybreak after the coldest night we have had this winter. The Railway carriage had no glass windows, only venetians. & they were chilled

S. B. Fairbank, D.D.,
Ahmednagar, Jan. 18, 1886,

through & through by the cold wind – & the third day after their arrival both fell sick – His began with headache & fever, & hers with neuralgia & backache. Thinking to do some necessary work at Wadale & Newasé I left them & went out – But his fever increased & threatened Enteritis or Typhoid Fever, & I was sent for. After four days the medicines used were blessed in effecting perspiration, & now both are improving rapidly & I hope they will soon be able to leave their beds to which the doctor strictly confines them. He insists that unless Mr S. takes Quinine in large quantities & keeps his bed the fever will return. So 6 grains of Sulph. of Q. are given every 3 hours.

These things have used up the leisure I had expected in Jan. for doing work that should be done in the cold Season. I must not complain for I was providentially hindered. I say nothing now of my visiting Am. next fall – The Master knows what is best & I must obey orders. For two months my health has been better than it was for four months before & better than it was in the corresponding months last year. The return of Dr Ballantine relieved me of the care of the Rahuri, Khokar & Pimplas Districts & I am thankful for that. When the Lord will allow me to give attention undividedly to the Wadale District, I shall rejoice exceedingly.

I am glad that Miss Harding can take a vacation now and spend it in the admirable climate of the Palani Hills. She needs it. And my daughter Katie who will for a time bear the burden of the "Girls School" alone, also needs a vacation & change of air & water. It has been providentially laid on me to work excessively & I think on that account with less apparent success. But these young ladies work excessively of free will. The school is just now the better for it & prospers admirably. But they could not endure such work for many more years. Nor can successors be expected to undertake so much.

Bro R.A. Hume wrote me in Jan a letter, rec'd by the last do. mail, with regard to successors in the "Girls School" to the present "Joint Superintendents." I trust that my son Henry & Miss H. when she becomes his wife, will be appointed to Wadale, so that that region may be more thoroughly worked than it has been. There is much more to be done than can possibly be done by one missionary & his wife, but they can do far more than I have been able to do. Their location at Wadale will take Ruby from this school. Who shall take her place? We were agreed in dividing the duties that pressed too onerously on Dr & Mrs Bissell & giving part of them to the brother Bissell. Now Dr Bissell has broken down – from excessive work – Any doctor will say that. Dr Batty says that he must abstain from mental work for some months if he wd. continue his work as a missionary. Well, Mrs Bissell & her dr. Emily propose to carry on his work (excepting his work here as Sec'y of the Mission & Sub Treas.) They will have all they can do & I dont think Miss Emily should be relied on to undertake Miss Ruby's duties. She has recovered the use of the Marathi or rather had not lost it. It is very problematical whether the good health she has had since she came, will continue. I think a wise policy wd. send us another pair of young ladies for the school. If they cd. be after the style of David & Jonathan as these are, it were well – I do not expect to see a pair as well fitted, in all respects, as they are.

You are aware that passage has been taken for my Mary to go in connection with the Snell Smiths – Her health has rather improved since she came to India & I trust that she will grow to be like her mother & her sister. Surely few men have been blessed with two such helps meet as I – Abby Allen & Mary Ballantine – And their children are worthy of them. Emily's health is delicate as her mother's was, but she works for the Lord. With best wishes for you in this good work

S B Fairbank

Rev. S. B. Fairbank.
Ahmednuggur, Feb. 15, 1886.
Rec'd March 23.
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Ahmednagar 31 Mar 1886

Rev N. G. Clark DD Sec. ABCFM

Dear Sir, I am living at Wadāle, though it is nec'y, on account of Dr Bissell's absence, for me to frequently visit Nagar. But I have been so troubled because of some correspondents directing letters for me to *Wadāle* that I think it may be well for me to date my letters from Ahr. I was very sorry to see in the late list of P.O. addresses of Mis. printed by the Board, that some one had taken the liberty to put "Wadāle" in my P.O. address. There is no Post Office here. There are *three* post offices in this county. Distributing carriers go in circuits from them to the villages. A letter for this village is rec'd here from the carrier the *fourth* day after he leaves the P.O. of *Sonai*. His circuit takes four days & this village is at the tail end of it. A letter rec'd at Sonai the next day after he starts, waits there three days & then is in his hands four days. It takes one day from Ahr. to Sonai, so letters to have often req'd *eight days* to reach me after they were rec'd at Ahr. I have a carrier to Ahr. twice a week, or three times if proof sheets or any specialty requires it. One comes leaving Ahr. the morning that the Overland mail is rec'd there, & so I receive Amn. letters the same day (8 or 9 hours later) that they are rec'd at Ahr., unless they are directed to "Wadālē" - In that case the distributer tosses them into the same pile & I receive them five to eight days later. Please note that my post office is Ahmednagar, though I live in Wadālē 26½ miles to the N.E. of Ahr. My lot is cast in India and 19 miles from the nearest Railroad Station. While I had charge of Rāhūrī, a full mail was rec^d there for me which had been remailed from Ahr. to Rāhūrī by mistake, as I had just left R. for Wadālē. The Rāhūrī postmaster, forgetting my direction to remail for me to Ahr., & knowing that I had just left for Wadālē remailed my letters & papers to Wadālē. I rec'd them here 19 days afterwards! Excuse my prolixity. Without it you could hardly understand the case.

As the Mission has appointed me to act for Dr Bissell as Sec'y till a sec'y can be regularly appointed at our May meeting, I will ack. the rec. of your letters of 25 Jan and 6 Feb. which were directed to Dr Bissell. Yesterday I was favored by the reception of your letter to me of 24 Feb. for which I thank you -

With regard to yours of 25 Jan - I will say

1. in the order of the letter, Firstly, I am much obliged to yourself & the Committee for the permission so courteously granted, to visit Am. this year & also to take or send my Dr. Mary to Am. My way seems providentially hedged, but I was allowed to send Mary with her older sister (Mrs T.S. Smith) of the Jaffna Mission. I am thankful to say that my health has been better for four months than it was during the six mos. previous and although the sickness & departure of Dr Bissell increased my cares & my work, I have been sustained hitherto. I look forward with great desire for the coming of my son Henry four months hence.

2. Next you ask further explanation of our method of procedure, in advancing preachers to "the Second grade" - You have doubtless recd. copies of the rules we adopted with regard to this, but I will try & remember to get a copy when I go to Ahr. and send it to you - There were seen to be reasons on acc of the additional expenses for books required by the better educated of our preachers, and in the demands made on them by their higher social standing for giving them more than w'd be needed by less studious & less prominent men; and there seemed to be a strong demand for a tangible stimulus to faithful endeavor. Then we are not

the only soc. which employs such men. It is nec'y to ~~have~~ pay some regard to their market value. We think it better to have the prize of higher pay & higher position made attainable to all by their success in examinations & the ~~success~~ attainments which can be described, than by our private judgment which might be regarded as prejudice or partiality. I hope that you have had opportunity to confer with Mr Hume respecting this matter. He & I were appointed by the Mission, a permanent committee for conducting the examinations of candidates for the Second Grade & we have conducted the yearly exam.ns in Aug for three years. The exam.ns have been thorough & severe. The questions have been printed in the Dnyanodaya after the examination & their perusal has been helpful in suggesting to would-be-candidates the course of study they s. pursue. In some cases it has not ~~been~~ proved a stimulus but has led such candidates to despair of success.

3. We have frequently allowed pay for a month or two in case of ~~one~~ an employee who had died or was dismissed. Perhaps too frequently. But it has been because of some reason that was regarded sufficient. Notwithstanding all our efforts to prevent it, our teachers & Bible Readers are more or less in debt. At least

there will be money due for articles bought on tick - And the credit was allowed because the purchaser received a monthly allowance. It may be in some cases that the missionary w. be regarded as unjust if he did not secure the payment of such dues - In India as a rule common retail business is on trust. - I remember that it was so in the U.S.A. when I was a boy, and I wonder how the change to the present system of no trust has been effected. The law of this country does not require the payment of salary after a man is dismissed -

4. The granting of our special requests in contingent estimate was matter of much interest and thankfulness on the part of those who had needed them

5. The appointing of Trustees + conveying all the property of the Mission to them was desirable as it regards property which is liable to be sold. The cost of doing it must in the aggregate amount to several thousands of Rupees, and in the case of comparatively cheap portions of land &c. the cost of transfer has been more than ~~than~~ the property is worth. The transfer has ~~been~~ made great demands on my time + must have made still greater on the time of the [illegible] + Sec. E.S. Hume. I am glad the work is done.

6. I am inclined to think that Mr R.A. Hume was under some misapprehension as to the expenditure of $200 for the Boys' Dormitory at Bombay above appropriations – But this letter of yours was sent to Mr E.S. Hume & in case there is need of a supplementary grant I doubt not that we shall hear of it at our approaching meeting in May, & find whether the mission will indorse a request for it.

7. The Belgravia, S. Anchor Line, sailed from Bombay the eve'g of 6 Mar, hoping to make her passage to Liverpool in 27 days. That w'd bring her to L'pool by the 3 April. We sent a large party in her, viz. Dr Bissell, the Gates with 4 children & George Harding, the J. Snell Smiths of the Jaffna Mission with 4 children & my Mary – In the good providence of God we may hope that they will reach America a fortnight before this letter does.

Your letter on _Estimates and Appropriations_ dated 6 Feb. – was duly rec'd & will be before us to guide in making, & arranging & reporting to you our Estimates for 1887, This work we do at our May meeting – We shall miss Dr Bissell our Sec'y greatly - This is an age of pen driving & we learn to avoid full explanations as far as may be in our correspondence. But at best, the time used by it amounts to a large per-centage of the time available for work - You need full explanations from us & I fear that whoever may be appointed, you will wish Dr Bissell were secretary instead.

As to your very kind letter of 24 Feb. which came to hand last week - I can but echo what you say of Dr Bissell - and ~~H~~ express the hope that Dr Hume's efforts to find helpers for us will succeed -

Mrs Bissell & her dau. Emily, are to leave Ahmednagar this week for a two months' change to Mahabaleshwar. It is the time given for vacation to the higher schools, so that part of Miss E's work (as well as that of Mrs B.) is not called for. Mr. Balawant Uzgare who has this year resigned his situation as asso. pastor of the Ah. Church & been regularly dismissed, will be Mrs Bissell's efficient helper as to itinerancy & evangelistic work. But there is not sufficient sum (made up from lapsed items) to make up his full allowance. This must be brought up at Mahab^l^t meeting & a small sum asked for to make up the deficiency. Mr Shetiba Gaykawad helps her as Inspector of Schools & is the best inspector we have or have had. So Mrs Bissell will have the rest she greatly needs, without feeling that the work is spoiling in her absence.

I do not plan to go to Mahabaleshwar or any other health station for health this ~~season~~ hot season. I must go to Ah^r for the work of Mission Meeting. There was much work postponed while I was detained in Ah^r through Jan & Feb. that ought to be done, & while I will try & not rashly upon my health I hope to do some of it, particularly what pertains to the Sustentation fund of the Ecc^l Union. I suppose I may be now expending some of my health capital (instead of the interest merely, which I regard as the true policy) but it is in hope that my son Henry will arrive four months hence & that soon afterwards I may take sufficient rest. If it does not appear to be the Lord's will that I go to the U.S.A. this year He still may allow me to leave the grind here for 6 weeks or 2 months' stay in some wilderness.

As to my need of a writer to help me, I did not wish to make much of it before the Mission. All know my physical ability & when I asked that it be put in as a contingent item I said but little about it. This ~~year~~ were I expecting to spend 1887 here I w^d ask without shame for my reasons. I w^d not like my allowance that the mission had it not approved in ~~the~~ it estimate.# With best wishes Yours in X,

S B Fairbank

Rev. S. B. Fairbank.
Ahmednagar, Mar. 31, '86
Rec'd May 3

Very likely I should not have written what I wrote about the writer had it not been that the contingents asked for the other stations were allowed while those asked for Wadale were not allowed. I did employ a [illegible] writer to some extent — & on the whole am probably just as well now as I should have been had I used a writer more.

Mahābaleshwar 11 May 1886

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.
Sec'y A.B.C.F.M. Boston Mass. U.S.A.

Dear Sir;- Our May Business Meeting began on the 7th inst. Excepting Br Smith, who had been at the Palani Hills health station but is expected to arrive here this morning,* all the brethren of the Mission (if it is proper to call these seven, "all") have been present from the beginning. We greatly miss those who are providentially absent in America, although the ladies who have had charge of their departments and labored in them with untiring zeal, are with us & have taken part in our meetings.

*he arrived as expected

Rev. J. W. Sibley and Mrs Sibley, of whom you are so well informed that I need not tell you their history, have also been with us, and it is on account of the action we have taken respecting them that I write at this time. We are informed that they have offered themselves to the American Board for appointment as its missionaries and assuredly gathering that the Prudential Committee would wish to know our opinions & wishes respecting their appointment & subsequent designation to this field, we have thought it advisable to act as if our opinions had been called for.

We appointed Committees to confer with and examine Mr Sibley with reference to his knowledge of the Marāṭhī & Hindūstānī languages & his state of health. These committees reported yesterday & I will copy from our minutes their reports and the resolutions subsequently passed by the mission

As to his ability to use the Indian languages, the Committee reported as follows. "Your committee beg to report that they examined Mr Sibley this morning with reference to his knowledge of Marāṭhī and Hindūstānī and would state the results reached by them. Mr S. read a portion of a Marāṭhī tract and engaged in conversation with us in both Marāṭhī and Hindūstānī. Mr S. read very clearly and distinctly, and with the exception of a failure to aspirate distinctly, his reading was entirely satisfactory. Mr S. has since his study of Marāṭhī neglected his Hindūstānī to such an extent that he feels somewhat rusty in its use. Notwithstanding this, his conversation in Hindūstānī was such that he could be easily understood. Easy questions in Marāthi could be readily understood and answered by him. Mr S. has studied Marāthi grammar up to Syntax, & in view of the hindrances to his studies, we, your committee, are of opinion that Mr S. has such use of the Marāthi as to be of present help to him in taking charge of some station work at once in the Marāthi field where the Hindustani is the chief language spoken."

Dr Ballantine appointed to examine & report on his health reported as follows;— "Results of a medical examination of Mr Sibley made by myself this morning. Mr S. gives no history of consumption whatsoever in his family. His lungs on inspection show somewhat imperfect expansion. Mr S. has also somewhat of a stoop in his walk. He gives no sign however of lung trouble on auscultation or percussion. Mr S. has had a severe cold, which he has had for several weeks, and as a result of this he shows some redness in the throat and fauces. He complains of irritation in the throat which hinders his public speaking. Remedies devoted to this trouble, will undoubtedly affect favorably his present trouble. In view of these facts, I give it as my unhesitating opinion that Mr S. has no present lung trouble, nor any evidence of it whatever. I can find no evidence of any other organic trouble with Mr Sibley."

"The Mission passed the following resolution, "Having had the privilege of a short acquaintance with Rev J. W. Sibley and Mrs Sibley, we are convinced of their fitness for missionary work in this land; and in our need of re-inforcement, we express the hope that their application for appointment by the American Board may be favorably received.

In case the Board should desire to locate a mission family at Lalitpūr, we think that Mr & Mrs Sibley are well fitted to undertake the work there.

But the majority of the Mission (4 out of 7) now present, are not prepared to recommend the occupation of Lalitpūr by a missionary of the Am. Board."

The furniture, conveyance &c which Mr & Mrs S. were using at Chikaldā & Elichpūr were provided for that mission & have been left with Mr Fuller &c who continue in connection with "the Faith Mission". And in case they are appointed by the Am. Bd. & remain in India, they will need an outfit. We have advised them to accept the invitation of Mr & Mrs Harding & reside at Sholāpūr, making the study of the Marathi their chief business until an answer is received to their application for employment as miss'y of the Am. Bd.

We have looked forward with some anxiety to the time when it will become imperative on the E. S. Humes to take a furlough, because ~~it~~ it seems impracticable for us to send~~ing~~ a family from our weakened force in the Dakhan to take their places in Bombay. So the news that the Parks were considering whether they ought not to ask reappointment by the Am. Bd. was welcome, not only because we highly esteem the Parks & have had experience of their value in the work, but also because it seemed a providential relief in our prospective arrangements. The Mission has passed the following resolution, viz -

"Having heard that Rev C. W. Park and Mrs Park may offer themselves to the American Board for re-appointment, & believing them specially fitted for work among the educated Natives of India, Resd. that we would heartily approve, if it shall seem advisable to the Prudential Committee to reappoint them; and we earnestly hope that the way may be opened for their speedy return to this mission."

Not having time to write by this mail of other matters, I am with best wishes Yours in the work

S. B. Fairbank, Acting Sec'y of the Am. Marathi Mission.

Rev. S. B. Fairbank,

Mahabaleshwa, May 11. /86,

Rec'd June 14.

Mahabaleshwar 24 May 1886.

Rev N. G. Clark DD.
Sec ABCFM

Dear Sir; I have the pleasure to enclose a copy of the Proceedings of our Business Meeting here, which closed on the 21st inst. It includes our Estimates for 1887.

The Estimates, including the premium for gold on allowances to the Missionaries is reckoned @ 40cts for a rupee & at this rate the whole comes to a sum Rs 1744 within your limit of $35000 @ 40cts to the rupee — That is, $35000 @ 40cts = Rs 87.500
Our Estimates amt. to Rs 85.756

But in reality, the rupee is not worth 40 cents. At the rates which have ruled of late, it has been nearer 37 cents for a rupee And the Bill for £300 which Mr Hacking sold last week brought Rs 4.141 - That gives a premium of 38% instead of the 25% which corresponds to 40 cts for a rupee. In this regard please notice Resolution 34. I think you will see the propriety of this resolution

The mail is to close in half an hour & I must leave what more I would say to another time. And probably that will be two weeks hence; as I shall be on my journey to Wadale from tomorrow till the extra work of the beginning of the month when the next outward mail will leave us.

We are all well - but are unable to do all the work that demands our attention.

With best regards & wishes
Yours in Christ
S B Fairbank

We hope to hear of Dr Bissell & Co from New York by this week's mail.

Rev. S. B. Fairbank,
Mahableshwar, May 24, /86,
Rec'd June 26,

Wadālē Ahmednagar 11 June 1886

To Rev N. G. Clark D.D.
Secy ABCFM

Dear Sir I wrote you briefly on 24 May, inclosing the proceedings of our May Business Meeting. Since then I have had the pleasure to receive your favor of 23 Ap. In my hurry I failed in my last to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 3 Mch in which you give the approval of the Prud. Com. to our action respecting Dr Bissell's visit to Am. We thank the Lord who has restored his health & trust that this rest & change may be promotive of many years farther service in our mission. This action of the Mission taken in Jan'y by circular, was reaffirmed in the 1st Resn. of our May Meeting. There were also two other resolutions Nos 2 & 3 passed also in Jan. & reaffirmed in May to which your letters that have come to hand have not referred. I still hope that their ratification by the Prud. Com. has been made & that we shall hear of it before the end of this month when we make out our accounts for the previous six months. We are acting as if our resn. had been approved; & definitely expect that Miss Emily Bissell will be appointed as asst. Miss'y Res. 9 was based on this expectation. As Dr Bissell reached New York on 23 Ap. I hope that he has been able to arrange for the preliminaries requisite to her appointment.

As to Res. 9 coupled with Res 4, I should say that Miss Harding is at present taking a much needed vacation at Kodaikānal & is reported as greatly profiting from it; & that she is expecting to return to Sholapur some six weeks hence & there be married to my son Henry. Afterward they are to take charge of this field and allow me a vacation. Miss Fairbank expects to continue to superintend "the Girls' School" at Nagar till the close of this term in Oct, as there will be a thorough examination of that School at the end of this term by the Government Inspector, with reference to Grants-in-aid. The mission is aware that she should have a vacation, because of overwork, as soon as practicable. The good ladies in Am. little know how much time & strength is consumed in answering the piles of letters that are sent to the lady superintendent of such a school. In the cold season Katie's arm became so much affected by excessive writing, although she writes with unusual rapidity, that she was obliged to postpone the answers to many letters. Then at Mahab. when she should have been really resting she was doing all she could to bring up the arrears of this correspondence through April & May, but was unable to finish it till she had worked three days after her return to Nagar just before the beginning of the new term of study. I don't know how this can be remedied, but as you find a secretary's work wearing, you can appreciate its importance.

Res. 5. We have been pained to hear that the breaking down of the health of Mr Park's mother may delay the speedy realization of our hopes, as to their return to the work in Bombay. They would find a unanimous acclaim of welcome from the people of Bombay & specially from the Miss's & other societies & Pastors of Churches, were the Parks to return thither.

Res 7&8 The most excellent advocate, Mr Jāfar, of Lalitpur, as a field that God has placed in the hands of the Amⁿ Mission to cultivate, was greatly disappointed that the mission did not think it best to make an effort for sending a mis'y there - He has written to the Prud. Com. & it seems very desirable that the field sd be occupied. As a railroad is to be built passing through J. it may become easier to send helps & for a mis'y to superintend work there, going from Bombay or from Nagar

Res. 10. Doubtless Mr Smith will have written about this resolution & his expectations in the matter.

Res. 11. You do not need words from me on this. Dr Bissell wrote on 8 May of an evening's conference at your house, & we have what Mr Hume wrote in consequence for the May Herald. My "works" testify of my faith in the matter. I cannot go & let the work cease; though it is plainly with the risk of finally breaking down, that I keep on pegging away & hope to be kept while doing it, till relieved by those who will do better work.

Res. 15. The working of our Rules with regard to the pay of those who had attained the position of "2. Grade Preacher" led the Brn with whom such Preachers have been associated to ask for modifications of the rules - So they were made & made in the hope that the benefits hoped from the arrangement may be attained with the modified rules. There is demand for men with the ability & education which w^d enable men to pass the examination required & show the fitness for active life required & if we would keep them in our connection we must go farther in raising their allowances than would seem necessary were we alone in the land.

Res. 16. The four pieces of land referred to were given to our Bombay Mission before I came to India, for school sites. But as Bombay now is they are not where we wish to place schools. Gov't does not care to reclaim them. We tried renting them for some years but with little profit. Gov't allows us to sell them & we think it best to do so. As to the use of the proceeds as proposed, it should be allowed by the Prud. Com. The necessity of the proposed improvements seemed undoubted to the Mission

Res. 17. Refers to a judicious exchange of land, securing a spot that we need, by selling an acre which has been used only for farming purposes.

Res. 18 needs no comment.

Res 19. was made necessary by the re-occupation of Sirur by Govt. or rather by an increase of the Cavalry stationed there, which has led Govt. to propose to use again the house for a dispensary which we had rented @ Rs 5 a month for the Station School. Mr Winsor was of opinion that Govt. wd. have it in his hands for higher rent & build a new house for its dispensary.

Res 20. I think that Br Winsor wis. to show you that the money wd. not in any case go into the genl. treasury of the board although it was offered for the proposed School houses.

Res. 21. Houses arranged for by Br Gates & necy.

Res 22. Br. Bruce found that it was impossible to protect thatch from white ants in those places & so, instead of yearly spending the money required to thatch them proposed that they also be covered with iron roofs - The Rs 250 necessary for thatching them was put in the regular estimates.

Rs 23 - You will see that there was decided difce. of opinion on this Resn. Permanent buildings, especially in the Konkan, are comparatively very expensive - The opposition feared the influence of example as to the style of school houses there in the Konkan & elsewhere - & thought it possible that the school would some time go down. The Missionary sd have a place where he cd stay without danger to his health. Mr Abbott has suffered from exposure in the Konkan. If there had been a purpose manifested to make a good deal of use of the miss's part as his home when in the Konkan I sd have voted for the res'n - The part for the misss. use was to cost about a quarter of the Rs 7200 - That seemed large for a casual refuge - more than this house at Wallālé cost - He said that those who wd give the Rs 1000 are Presbyterians & not donors to the Am. Board.

Res 24. Br R.S. Hume is not a good financier. & often has asked for less than was really required for objects that he asked allcy for - and the cost of things in By has been so large & so rapidly increasing that his private funds have been taxed too largely for public objects - I hope that his expectations will be realized.

Res. 30 - It is a pity that this fourth year of the Curriculum of the Theol. Class be postponed. But the word impracticable is properly used in the absence of Brn R.A. Hume & Bissell. Mr Modak's health is very shaky.

Res 32. The publication of a report of our mission pays. It saves us a great deal of writing to the friends of the Mission & as it is, ~~writing~~ correspondence occupies too large a part of our time. The map proposed is in accordance with the illustrating spirit of the age & we think it too, will pay.

Rs 34. will, I am sure commend itself to the Prud. Com. We of course shall make a rupee go as far as it will, but it does not go so far as it did, in purchasing power. We find it necessary to pay our better educated & better qualified agents more than we did. They cannot live respectably on the allces we give & we must needs give them enough to do it, if we wd. keep them. The prices of articles of food produced in India do not seem as yet to be much affected by the depreciation in the purchasing power of the rupee. But all else is affected & by degrees we shall see that the price of grain &c is affected by it. How long this cheapening of silver coin in the world's market is to continue, does not appear. You may think it best to appropriate less dollars for your Indian Missions because exchange gives more rupees than it did & salaries of the Native agents are reckoned in rupees - But does there not seem strong reason for allowing us to use, economically as we most, the equivalent of the dollars that are appropriated? It may that the Prud. Com. will think it best in the present swift descent of the value of our currency to adopt some middle course - But I think they will find that trusting the Mission to use the gold appropriations so far as necessary will prove most satisfactory to all concerned.

Res 35. I am sorry to find on copying the lists of Estimates into our Record Book, that I made a mistake in the Satara List & the total of it should be 8.615 & consequently the Total of the whole should be Rs 85.833. If you will have the figures changed both in the resolution & in the Lists of Estimates I will be much obliged.

I have commented on each res.n that seemed to me to require it: If anything else is not clear I trust that you will kindly ask for explanation.

With best wishes

Yours most sincerely

S B Fairbank

Ag Sec. Am. Marathi Mission

Wadàle, June 25, 1886,

Rec'd July 19.

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Estimates —

Rn. 21. 22. 23. 25

Wadale, Ahmednagar 10 Nov. 1886

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Sec'y. A.B.C.F.M.
Cong^{l} House, 1 Somerset St. Boston, Mass. U.S.A.

Dear Sir

There are some things in minutes of our Oct. Mission meeting that need explanation and some for which the mission has directed me to give the reasons. I will try to give them, but wish the Sec'y's work were in abler hands.

Res. 7 gives me leave to take a change to the Palani Hills. This is the best resource for renovation that we have in India. I have held on for two years since the state of my health seemed to demand a visit to a temperate climate; fagging through some months each year when an utter break down seemed imminent, and then recovering partial elasticity and working for a few months with some satisfaction. Dr R. A. Hume expected to return before the end of this year, and my plans had been laid for visiting Am. as soon after his return as the season of the year would allow me to take the voyage with profit. His detention, which is a sore calamity to our mission, is particularly hard on me, and if he is not to return, I must stay and do as much as I can of the work that he would have done, if the Lord will strengthen me for it.

We have arranged for our young men to study theology from June to Octr. inclusive, and so there is special demand during those months for such educational work as (in our condition of a young Christian community) only missionaries can do successfully. But every man and woman in the mission is working up to the limit of ability.

I thank God that He has sent us my son Henry, and that He has endowed him with the idiomatic use of the Marathi language and health and other special fitnesses for the work; and that He has given him a wife like-minded and with similar preparation for evangelistic work; so that they are at once undertaking the work in this district. You will see by Res. 2 that the Mission work in this district has been put in their charge. They are here and though as yet hardly settled, they have begun their work of preaching the word in this and the neighboring villages. As soon as the ground, after our late unusual, heavy rains shall become sufficiently dry, they will live in tents, and will visit circles of more remote villages and thus do most necessary work which I have been able to do but partially for some years.

So I am at liberty, until the rainy season, to try to obtain such recuperation on the Palani Hills as shall enable me to work in the months of special effort above referred to. My daughter Katie too, has been overworking, and must have good solid rest. We hope that a visit to the Palanis will do her as much good as Miss Harding's visit did her.

Res. 10. The buildings to be put up, are, excepting the bath room and the changes in the East room (wh. are both required to prevent the necessity of using the study for a guest room, as I have done) in place of those which I had dispensed with and torn down, because I was living here alone, and keeping them up required the expense of thatching and other repairs. The estimate for these buildings is about Rs 600, but we will try and build them for a less sum.

Res. 11 - The heavy rains in Sept and Oct. made the outhouses at Rāhūrī uninhabitable. They have single-tiled roofs. The rafters and other timbers of the roofs are not strong enough to allow of putting on double tiles. So Br Ballantine proposes to roof them with corrugated iron. The railroad passing by Rāhūrī enables him to obtain cor. iron there at a much cheaper rate than it can be laid down at Mahābaleshwar - But I suppose tha he will write about this, as well as about a special grant for the building which is to serve for his Dispensary, Surgical room, Station School &c; which will also be roofed with cor.d iron &, after the iron is painted with coaltar, with thatch. The iron will keep out the rain and the thin thatch (lying upon it and sewed to it around the edges and eaves) will keep out the heat.

These grants and those asked for in Res.s 12 & 15 and 18, were asked for now, as special grants, (a) because of felt present need; and (b) because the premium on gold raises the amount of rupees realizable from $32.000, so much above our appropriations for 1886 in rupees, that all these sums may be paid out of the surplus; and (c) the sum being realized from the sale of the old Press-building, will soon come into the treasury and the necessary remittances from the Boston Treasury will be diminished by so much; and (d) in two letters of yours (which are in the letter book at Afr. so that I cannot refer to them by their dates) our request that we might be allowed the premium realized on remittances, was granted. I do also refer to our res.n asking this, by number, (the book is in Afr.) lest it may prove that our understanding of the res.n and our intention in making it, may not have been properly understood by the Prudential Committee.

Res. 17 is partly explained by Res.s 15, 7 & 8. The visits of members of our mission to Kodaikanal on the Palani Hills have uniformly proved highly recuperative. I have been allowed to spend three months there twice since my last return from Am. in 1871. The Parks, the Gates, the Smiths and Miss Harding found their changes to Kodaikanal highly restorative. But all these changes have been available, only through the kindness of the Madura Mission — the members of which have consented to limit their accommodations that they might accommodate us with house-room.

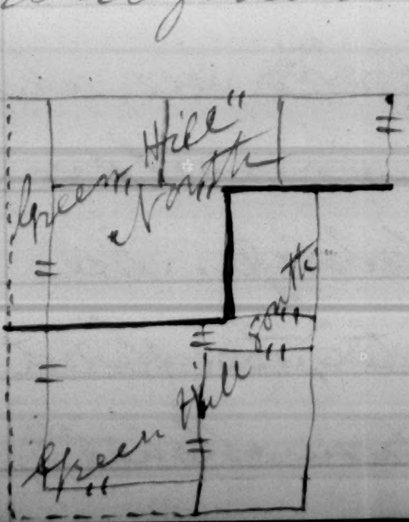
The change from these dry plains of the Deccan to Mahābaleshwar in the hot season, relieves us from the debilitating effects of the dry heat, and gives rest and social enjoyment. So it is healthful and we eagerly avail ourselves of it. This year all need the change, so that for the coming hot season the house accommodation will be insufficient. The allotment of the houses is as follows. Panchgani. The Hardings & the Ballantines.

Green Hill

North. The Henry Fairbanks

& The Sibleys

South The Winsors.



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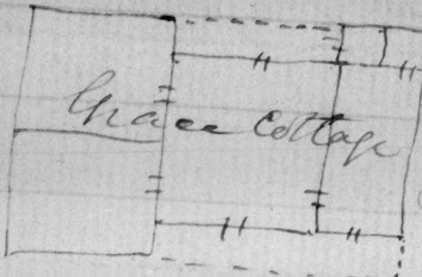
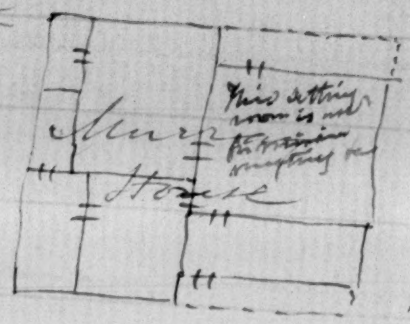


Grace Cottage

The Bruces

& Dr Abbott.



Murray House

The Bissells

& the Misses

Bissell.

So that accommodation is not provided for the Smiths, and as they both need the change, the Mission passed Res. 15.— But a change to Mahābaleshwar can hardly be called recuperative, while a change occupying the same length of time at Kodaikānal, certainly is so.

Our houses at Mahābr. have always been expensive. Very seldom we have let a house in some part of the year when it was not needed by the mission. But as a rule the income from rent has been very small as compared with the outgo.— But we understand that the rents of the mission houses at Kodaikānal for the part of the year in which they are not needed by the mission, pay for all expenses.

We think that in such cases as that of Mrs Smith, it would sometimes prove as useful to go to the Palani Hills as it would to go to America; and that in the case of persons in vigorous health, like me, when jaded and worn, a change to the Palanis would restore elasticity and vigor and cheerfulness. The expenses of going and coming are greater, though not twice as much, as those of going to & ret'g from Mahābr., but the effects of a visit are so much more important and lasting, that, for some persons at least, the Pulanis should be chosen on the score of economy.

I will only add, that in the present state of the health of the members of the mission, the accommodations at Mahab.r are insufficient, and rather than provide more by hiring houses, as we propose to do for the coming hot season, it would seem desirable to build a house at Kodaikanal with four smale rooms & bath rooms so that the house would shelter two families - The estimate of Rs 4000 was given to Mr Smith at Ko by those who knew something of the cost of building there. But at best it is only a good guess at the probable cost. If the Prud.l Com. think the request of the mission worth considering, I will secure a careful estimate of the cost of building such a house.

Res. 18. The funds for building the Book Depot at Ahmednagar, were donated for the purpose by gentlemen in India; and we supposed that the amount was sufficient. But it seemed best to make the floor of stone slabs (instead of pounded mūrūm) and to use French tiles for the roof, and also to put an iron fence before it. These changes increased the cost more than was expected & hence the deficit asked for in the resin. It is a good substantial building of burnt brick and faces on a road which has become a principal street of the city & is used more and more.

Res. 21. The name of Rev H. Fairbank appears on the list of the Professors for the Ahmednagar College. This was agreed to, on his part, only for the first year and with the arrangement that he shall teach in the rainy season only. Mr Smith found that the University would not affiliate the College without the full staff of Professors on the ground - So he was urgent that H. F. should undertake to teach Logic & History, in case a professor should not arrive from Am. before next June.

Res's 27 & 28. We hardly know what is the just and honorable course to take in regard to such a man as Prof Modak. He is not past usefulness, but he has been frequently laid aside by sickness for weeks and months at a time. When Dr Hume was his co-professor in the Theol. Seminary, he wd take Prof. Modak's classes, for weeks when he was sick. But it is not every professor who can carry on the work of another as well as his own. Prof. M was a preacher when I arrived in India 40 years ago & he has never been lazy - But for two years he has been infirm and much of the time confined to his room.

There does not seem reason for my referring to other resolutions - I must ackd the rec of your letters of 15th & 28th Sept. The first was recd in our meeting. The latter I have copied & sent the copy on its way as a circular to the members of the mission. Yours most sincerely

S. B. Fairbank

Ahmednagar, Nov. 10. 86.
Rec'd Dec. 21.

Ahmednagar Wn India. 12 Sept 1887

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Sec. A.B.C.F.M. &c.

Dear Sir. Since it was settled that I should visit the U.S.A. Providence has hedged my way, till now He has opened it for me to go, and I am preparing to start at an early date – before the end of this month, unless prevented by some hindrance that has not yet appeared. I cheerfully gave up my plan for going when Dr Bissell fell sick & fagged on till his return – Then, as cheerfully I waited for the return of Dr R. A. Hume – As my son Henry & his wife had undertaken the work in the Wadālē district, I was not obliged to stay by the demands of work already undertaken by the mission, for the first half of 87 – But so long as a decision to send Hume back trembled in the balances, it seemed duty for me to stay, husbanding my strength so that in case he should not come, I might either help in teaching the Theol. Students in June & on, or do the work of some one who would teach them – I was exceedingly tired & worn mentally, but hoped that a solid rest on the Palani Hills, would not only strengthen my general health, but also invigorate my brain so that I cd go to work again in the beginning of June, in case Hume cd not return.

[illegible] was [illegible]
years, his mind did not fade, but his spirit grew more
mellow & sweet. His last words were "Vishwasant [illegible]
rāhā" that is "Abide in faith". His loss is widely felt. Dear [illegible]
Dr Bissell lies in the [illegible] of his death.

I thank the Master that he has sent Hume back, & that he has come strong & eager for work, & has at once entered on it, in the villages & with his old zest & ability. He and my daughter Katie were married in the Chapel at Nagar on the 7th. Dr E. S. Hume aided me in the service. We found that the chapel which easily seats 600 persons w^d not hold those who wished to be present at the marriage, so I sent invitations to our Schools & the Native Xn residents & to some English & Native Friends. The Ushers excluded all who had not an invitation; but every seat was filled. Friends joined in beautifully decorating the chapel for the occasion, & everything was auspicious. There was rain an hour before, but at the time the rain was withheld & none of importance fell during their drive of 23 miles to Wadale, where they began their honey moon. The next day there was a series of furious thunder showers with high winds from the S.E. which would surely have drenched them had they then been on their way to W. Katie is a successful worker in schools & in the two months she spent at Sholapur just before her marriage, she won golden opinions from the Native Community by what she did in the schools, so that crowds gathered to do her honor when she came away. It seems a pity that she has not more physical strength.

My son Henry is still teaching Latin & History in the College; but he will be relieved of that duty by the arrival of Mr De Regt, & be allowed to give himself entirely to the work in the villages, which he much prefers & esteems, as I do.

My stay on the Palani Hills did not seem to invigorate my brain as I had hoped it would. I found as before, that the climate was most congenial to me. I worked with my axe or spade all day with great satisfaction. My muscles became hard & elastic — digestion good — & spirits effervescent. But the hope that my brain would show renewed vigor, was deferred. Prolonged mental effort not only tires my brain, but leaves it in a maze — a blank — in which I cannot remember the work of the previous day & shrink from reading even. I have seen many Eng. gentlemen after long service in India in a similar mental state, & the doctors are doubtless right in requiring abstinence from mental work & changes, as remedial.

I have built a small house near Kodaikanal doing much of the carpenter's & mason's work myself. & I mean to ask leave of the Prudential Committee to leave my work here & go there whenever I find this anaemic state of my brain is coming on. That is, I will-work when I can, but when thus incapacitated for toil, I will go there & stay till the ability returns. I say this in the hope that my visit to Am. will be restorative. I should have gone to Am. when during the last half of 1885, I found my mind unfit for its work, but I fagged on & it became better for the first half of 86. Then failing me again it is only within a month or two past that I have seen improvement. Life on the Ocean has heretofore been highly restorative to me & I go now with faith that it will do so again. I am sure that you will excuse the egotism of this letter and I hope that you & the Prud. Com. will agree with me as to my plans for the future. 41 years will only have passed on the 20th of this month since I first landed in Bombay. During that time I have visited the U.S.A. twice, being away from my work here two years each time. This time I hope that only one year's absence will suffice.

I am writing at Rāhuri, though I return to Naga[r] this a.m. - I had charge here while Dr Ballantine was in Am. - I am glad to see improvement & progress - I saw the same last week at Wadale. I attribute it not merely to the freshness of Dr Ballantine & of Henry Fairbank, but still more to the work & influence of their wives. With the hope that the Lord will overrule the present agitation among the constituency of the Board & make the Springfield meeting a means of peace harmony & progress

I am Yours heartily S B Fairbank

Rec'd Oct. 15.

Rec'd Oct. 13.

Sept. 12. 87.

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STEAM SHIP

New York Harbor
S.S. Furnessia 15 Nov 87

My dear Dr Clark

We have had a
leasant voyage from Glasgow-
hich we left in the evening
the 3d inst. The voyage from
Bombay to London was also
prosperous. And I feel vigor-
ous - have a voracious appe-
tite - & think that I must
e several pounds heavier
than I was when we left
Bombay in the Britannia.
Miss Hume left Bombay
before I did in a Rubattino

steamer and she came to Glasgow expecting to cross the Atlantic in the Devonia; but as her luggage had not arrived & friends urged her to stay a week longer, she stayed & she has been a fellow passenger with me on the Furnessia. She has plainly improved in health by the voyage.

This is a remarkably good sea boat - the officers have been friendly & have had our entire confidence, & the food has been excellent

& all the arrangements such as we would have desired.

Those who have often crossed the Atlantic say that they prefer the Furnessia to all. As we have been greatly favored by Providence.

I plan to go from N.Y. to Hatfield, Mass, to the home of my daughter Anna, Mrs R M Woods — And to come to Boston in a few days.

Thankful to our Gracious keeper for numberless mercies & hoping to see you soon

Yours afft

S B Fairbank

On my resignation when Dr Bissell returned to Nagar at the end of 86, I was made a member of the Municipality -

There is also a representative body in each County ~~another~~ called a "Local Board" - And there is a "District Local Board", made up principally from representatives of which one is chosen & sent by each Local Board - I was chosen by the circle of Villages around Vadāle as their representative to the L.B. of the Newāse Tāluk (County) & then was sent by that L.B. as its representative in the District Local Board -

The part of the Taxes, which is called the "Local Fund" & amounts to $\frac{1}{17}$ of the Taxes collected by Gov't, is controlled & expended for roads

Hatfield 13 Feb. 1888

Rec'd Feb. 17.

Dear Dr Clark

Your favor of the 6th was duly received, but I was then much interested in a sermon which I was preparing and deferred answering your inquiries till I should complete it. I preached the sermon yesterday

You ask about "the attitude of the more educated men at Ahr & in our mission toward our mis'y work." There are not many highly educated men at Ahr. nor in any Deccan city except Poona - There are a few - of certain classes - E.G.

1. Several lawyers connected with the English Judge's court - They are much absorbed in professional

work, & they seldom shew interest in religious matters, either Hindu or Xn. - Probably some of them helped in the effort which was made last year to colonize largely from Dr Smith's School. Both teachers and pupils were to go. The plan failed -

2 The Subordinate Judge used to talk a great deal about moral reform &c.. But he was unpractical. He was friendly in appearance; w. call, & w. attend examinations - But he never really helped us.

3. The Asst. Educational Inspector (a Brahman) & his assistants, acted impartially in their examinations of our schools & reported favorably about them

4 The Mamlatdars, who are

revenue officers & who also act as magistrates - next below the English Collector & his Assistants are overburdened with office work - There are some 14 of them in the Ahmednagar "District" (= State) - each being in charge of a county - Our intercourse with ~~them~~ has usually been friendly. I don't remember a case of late when any ~~of them took~~ sides for or against ~~the~~ Xy.

5 There are some ten Subordinate Judges of 2d & 3d class - their case is similar to ~~that~~ of the mamalatdars. The attitude of these men has been largely noncommittal & apathetic.

Though not living at Nagar, I was appointed a member of the Municipality & attended the monthly meetings for some two years. I do not think that anything came up in the municipality meeting while I was a member ~~that~~ told for or against Xy

The Books published in Europe & America by infidels, against Xy, are sold in considerable numbers in India & are read by those who know something of English.

The influence of the English Professors & teachers in the Govt Colleges & Schools in Bombay & Poona has been for many years hostile to Xy. Prof. Wordsworth (son of the poet) for example has often shown in print his animosity to Xy & must have done so in his teaching. It wd be strange if the Students in those institutions have not been influenced against Xy.

When there is a man with definite & strong convictions, they are likely to be of the Bob Ingersoll type.

As the forms of error which we have to combat, when educated men oppose Xy, are very much the same as those which are found in the U.S.A.

Sometimes we come across a man who upholds Hindu philosophy — Pantheism, the unreality of every thing &c. But this is rare with those who have had a liberal education, & especially with those who have learned something of English.

My work has been among the villagers. And as a rule, there are no highly educated persons among them.

I think that Dr Chamberlain put the no. ~~of them~~ far too high of those who know Eng. well enough to fairly understand the English addresses to which they may listen. As a rule in the Bombay Pres., Hindus learn English only enough to enable them to compete with others in the struggle for office. And when office is secured they lay it aside permanently. Very few Hindus & still [illegible] continue their studies after they leave school.

I do not know as any thing in the above remarks will be useful to you

There are very few characteristic errors, which belong to Bombay or India - The attitude of the Educated as to religion, is mostly apathetic

I have found the winter weather more healthful than I expected - have had no colds - or "malaria". My children & grandchildren, too are also well.

I am Yours cordially
S B Fairbank

schools &c by the Local Boards.

They & the Municipalities are the only forms of representative govt. enjoyed by the people of the Deccan. — When I came away & resigned my seat in these boards, my son Henry was chosen for both. This showed that the people regarded us as fit to represent them & their political needs & rights. They did not mean by it to show any approval of Xy.

At Satara the water question lately incited the native educated men to act in a hostile manner toward Mis & Xy.

You ask 2d about special errors that have been imported from abroad &c.

For a time Theosophy seemed to attract much attention. But the interest faded.

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S. B. Fairbank D.D.

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who have the language & who have had experience. The cost of a voyage to India is not so great now as it was years ago. It seems to me that there are strong reasons for at least considering the question & for asking him of whether he does not think that he is called to return to the Marathi mission. Do you not think that the doctors may be mistaken & that he may prove to be the one needed just now?

I am very sorry that such decided differences of opinion have obtained in our mission as to the work in Bombay. Although, in view of the continually increasing expenses of Bombay life, I do not wonder that the Deccan brn are holding back, I think that it is a pity that they must do so.

Are you to be found these days at the Cong.l House? & ~~at~~ at what times?

Yours in the Lord
S B Fairbank

The furious wind this morning has thrown down part of one of the oldest finest Elms of Main St

J. B. Fairbanks D.D
i v P.C.

Hatfield Mass 11 July 88

My dear Dr Clark Dr. Haven

After spending some six weeks in visiting my brothers and friends in the West I am again in this pleasant Hatfield home. On my way back I spent a day with the I. M. U. at Bridgeton N. J. It troubles me that neither there nor at the West I could hear of a suitable man who would be able to go this year for our help. From late letters I fear, as I open one from India, & hear of Dr Sibley's death. The last letter from Ahm.. was dated 10 Je & was written by my Katie after her return from Mahab..r. She & her wee boy "Wilson" were none the worse for the journey, & had improved right along from the time of peril, a month before, when the survival of both was hardly hoped for. I hourly thank the Lord that He has kept them for us & the Work.

I did hear of a Mr Kaufman of Strawberry Point Iowa, and asked Sec. Humphrey to write & find out whether he was suitable & available for our help. He kindly sent some letters to those who he hoped would confidentially write of his suitableness. & I hope that you have heard that he is one, whom we may hope to welcome in India.

If the future could have been scanned, I think Br Hazen would have years ago returned to W. India. The doctors decided against his return. But he has had health to do pastor's work right along, all these years - For a time Mrs H's feebleness wd. have hindered. But since her death he might have worked there, for aught that appears, as well as here - And I have been thinking that he is the man for the present emergency. He has has retained his correct & free use of the Marāthi language & has always felt the warmest interest in our work & kept himself posted as to its minute details - I have talked with him as to the practicability of his going out now, in our emergency, & found that he wd. rejoice to go if others approved. I do not see why he might not expect as good health there as here. At any rate he could go to work *at once*, were he there, & there is pressing need of men

Fairbank.

Hatfield Mass 14 Sep 88

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. **Rec^d. Sep. 15.**

Sec. A.B.C.F.M. Cong^l. House Boston Mass.

Dear Dr Clark

Your letter of 10th, mailed 12th Sep, has just come to hand. You ask when I think of going back to India. In answer I am happy to say that the time is near. When I came, it was to stay here about a year; and I see no reason for changing the plan. I have not fixed on any date or any particular steamer, But I have meant to be ready to go in Nov. and hope Providence will allow me to go by the middle of that month. I intended

Boston, 18 Sept 1888 Rec Sept 18 '88

to come to Boston about the beginning of Aug. & consult with you about this & some other matters, but the fit time did not offer, & other duties seemed to claim my time.

My visits with my brothers & friends in Wis., Minn., Ohio &c. were exceedingly pleasant, though short. I have spoken on Missions, nearly every Sunday since May began, & as a rule both morning & evening. On the 9th, I spoke at Oakham Mass. & on the 16th am to speak at Greenwich Mass. On Wednesday the Woods removed back from Quabin villa, Enfield Mass. to this pleasant home – all refreshed by the stay there.

I must come to bother you for half an hour, though I know that just now your time is unusually preoccupied. I think to attend the meeting at Cleveland.–

Yours in Xt
S. B. Fairbanks

Deccan. Those weary missns
cannot meet the demands.
They will do all they can
till they faint & fall. Oh
that the Lord of the Harvest
wd. send more labourers into
those fiel[illegible] of Mahārāshtra!

I mean to go back as soon
as the ~~[illegible]~~ reasons for my
coming to Am. can by any means
be accomplished - I feel better
in mind than I did, & after
walking this morning some ten
miles in three hours, (after preach-
ing twice at Greenwich yesterday) so
as to reach the train at 8:40 a.m.,
which brought me here, I must
be regarded as sound in body.

Boston, 18 Sept 1888

Rec Sept 18 88

No. 26.

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.
Sec. A.B.C.F.M.

P.C. Rev. Allen Hazen, a!

Dear Dr Clark

On hearing of the death of Br Sibley, and that Br Smith was so ill as to find it necessary to allow others to hear his classes in the College — and on learning by the short letters I have rec'd from others, that my brother & sister missionaries of the Marathi Mission have been working *excessively*, so that most of them are worn & weary, & are fagging, rather than working with their usual elasticity, I am profoundly impressed with the conviction that unless relief is speedily afforded them we shall soon hear of one and another breaking down -

I am delighted to hear that Mr McCullough has gone to the help of the Smiths in their college work - and hope that you will be able to send another for the College so that the Smiths may have at least a time of rest - He ought to take a furlough

Bro Gates was sent again & again to Satara on account of Br Sibley's sickness, & the Bissells went to help during his last sickness.

They went although they were greatly needed at home, in their own Departments. ~~What~~ I do not see how the mission can provide for such work as ought to be done at Satara by a missionary. Nor do I see how the others can continue to neglect their own work to do duty for Bro Smith. There is very urgent need today for two men, who have a free use of the language, to provide ~~[illegible]~~ for the present emergency — to say nothing of the evangelistic work that ought to be done this cold season both in Bombay & its vicinity, & in the

fluent & correct use the Marathi
language & his intense love
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can give, I feel that it is
binding on me to bring the
case again before the Pruden-
tial Committee, although I
have learned that it was consid-

66

told him. I wrote for the opinion of two missionary doctors who have long resided in India & who met Br Hagen at Bridgeton N.J. at the late conference, & after examining his case told him they thought he should return to his mission work. Their answers I recd. were as follows.

Dr Chester of the Madura Mission writes "Aug 11. 1888,

"Dear Bro Fairbank"

× × I had nearly an hour's talk with Bro Hagen at Bridgeton, going very carefully, at his request, into the question of his present state of health and the advisability, or otherwise, of his return

#66 Part II

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Deccan. Those already there cannot meet the demands. They will do all they can till they faint & fall. Oh that the Lord of the Harvest would send more labourers into those fields of Mahārāshtra!

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Rec Oct 8 88

Ans. Dec. 26.

Rev N. G. Clark D.D.
Sec. A.B.C.F.M.

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I believe the American Board would be incurring far less risk in returning Dr Hazen than in sending out the average young man for the first time. With kindest regards

Yours very sincerely

(Signed) Jas L Phillips

P.S. Dr Bachelor went out in 1840 & is now 71."

I trust that it will seem best to the Prudential Committee, to appoint Dr Hazen again, if not for permanent work for a limited time, say for five years. They can hardly be expected to appreciate the gravity of the situation out there as I do, nor know the special fitness of Dr Hazen. His work ~~on~~ in editing the Marathi Bible is his [illegible] monument. He uses the Marathi language fluently & correctly & his pronunciation is as free from brogue as any foreigner can well be. Ever Yours in the good work

S. B. Fairbank

(Boston 18 Sep 88 con'd) the sickness of his wife & how he accepted a pastorate in Am. for more than 12 years, until the death of his wife — & then joined our Madura Mission again. He is in charge of the Palani Station, & since Jan'y, when we came to Am., has also had charge of our Dindigul Station; & has been doing excellent work. Now, in my opinion, your Bro Hazen of the Marathi Mission is stronger and better able on the score of health to do Mission work in India than our Bro H. C. Hazen. I really do not know what our two Missions are to do for men. It looks as if they would have soon to be worked by ladies. × ×"

Yours sincerely
(signed) Edward Chester,

Dr Phillips, of Baptist Board, writes as follows.

No. 1 Somerset St., Boston, 24 Oct 1888

Dr. Fairbank -

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Sec A.B.C.F.M.

Dear Sir,

Refit

After your kind offer to speak to the Prud. Com. with reference to allowing me the means to purchase One of White's Physiological Manikins which I think will be very helpful to me in my Miss'y work in India; & also after what was said respecting "refit" - I thought over the matter & it seems to me that I had better ask for fifty dollars as refit allowance, in addition to the $500 allowed for my expenses for the year of my stay in Am. rather than refer at all to the Manikin. $60 would enable to procure both the Manikin & also such clothes as I need. If you think I am right & will arrange to allow $60 as "refit" I shall be much obliged - Yours faithfully

S B Fairbank

Bible House New York,
Nov. 17. 1888.

Rec'd Nov. 19.

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39 Bible House N.Y. City
17 Nov 1888

My dear Dr Clark

I have had a busy week here but am now ready for going aboard the Furnessia - Owing to the rough stormy weather she met in coming from Glasgow, she arrived two days later than was expected, & so is not to be ready to sail this aftn as advertized, but we are to go aboard this aftn & they say that she will sail at 6 a.m. tomorrow. Mr Bigelow, the expressman, put some boxes belonging to Bp Thoburn aboard the F. yesterday, so I

12 Jany

I have the pleasure of welcoming him as a fellow-passenger. I have not yet seen Miss Denman.

I was disappointed at the result of the reconsideration of McNayr's case by the Pred. Com. - not for the first time disappointed. But there's a Providence that shapes our ends, Rough hew them how we may.

I must leave this t'attend to the send off of my luggage. Will report myself from Glasgow if the Lord will.

With very pleasant memories & best wishes

Yours most cordially

S. B. Fairbank

. T.S. Fairbank

d. Nov. 29. 1888.

Will you kindly hand
the inclosed to Mr Ward
& Mr Swett immediately

Yours —

S.F.B.

Glasgow, Nov. 29. 1888.

Rec'd Dec. 11.

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Glasgow 29 Nov 88

To Rev N. G. Clark DD
Sec'y A.B.C.F.M 1 Somerset St Boston USA

My dear Dr Clark

Though hindered by head winds & a heavy swell most of the way, & a gale last Monday, in wh. one of our life boats was lifted by the sea so as to twist & bend its iron davits &c, & was stoven in, in three places as it came down we were brought on safely & arr. here to day — well & thankful. I conducted rel. service on Sunday, in congl. form, standing by a post which I laid hold of when the rolling of the steamer was like to upset me — I have arranged with the Henderson Brothers to go on in the Asia, which is to start from Liverpool on 15 Dec'r - In the mean time I hope to enjoy visits with some of the good friends, now retired, whose society I used sometimes to enjoy when they were in Govt. service in India -

I can but feel sadly because I am going back alone - but I hope & pray that the right men may soon offer & be sent to our help -

I am Yours cordially

S B Fairbank

Miss Demmon, who is going to India to work with Ramābāi Pandita, was my fellow passenger on the Furnessia. She suffered from sea sickness all the way, excepting yesterday. She was met by Miss Grier on the wharf at Greenock & will also visit with the friends for two weeks & then go on in the Asia.

London, Dec. 13, 88.

Rec'd Dec. 26.

Rev N. G. Clark D.D &c

S.S. Asia. Liverpool
15 Dec. 1888. To sail 8 P.M.

London 13 Dec 1888

To Rev N. G. Clark DD Sec ABCFM
1 Somerset St Boston Mass—

My dear Dr Clark

I fear that something may hinder my writing at Liverpool—So I will now note that I expect to sail in the Asia from Liverpool on Sat. the 15th, as the Hendersons have warned me that I must go on board at 4 P.M. on the 15th. The Abbotts went to Bombay lately in the Asia & had an exceptionally pleasant voyage. Miss Demmon of the Ramabai Asso. is also to go on in the Asia

Port Said, Dec. 31, 1888

Recd. Jan. 22. 1889

I have not heard that any other missy is going. 17 went in the Arabia, Anchor Line, sailing from L'pool on the 3d. – 15 ladies & 2 gent. all for the Methodist missions in India & besides them Dr & Mrs Thoburn went in the P. & O. Str of the previous week. Miss Dr Sheldon was one of the party. She said she was the dt. of a Congl minister & had expected to go out, sent by the Am. Bd. But that when she conversed with Dr Alden about it he did not encourage her to apply to go as a doctor. She seemed to me to be a very suitable candidate for our work.

I have spent my time in Eng. partly in looking up & purchasing things which I needed, & partly in visiting old Indian friends - most of whom have retired from the Govt. service in India, but are heartily at work here in the service of Xt. Most excellent men! I have met the Misses Leitch again & again. They are confident that the Lord will give them the rest of the £7000 that the Jaffna College needs.

I may add a word in Liverpool - With most pleasant memories & best wishes

Yours most sincerely
S B Fairbank

1 Jan. 1889 - I wish you a Happy New Year - And as for the old Board & all its belongings - as Dr Cox said at an Annual meeting - "Perpetua esto" - May its prosperity & fruitage ever increase - We shall be taken up by the sights around as we near Suez - So I will close this here in the Canal, between the Bitter Lakes & the Red Sea - a place of wonderful memories & suggestions - If any thing special occur before I can mail it, I will add a P.S.

As ever Yours most Cordially

S B Fairbank

Port Said, Dec. 31

Rec'd Jan. 22. 1889

Port Saïd, 31 Dec 1888

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Sec'y ABCFM

1 Somerset St. Boston Mass, U.S.A.

Dear Dr Clark,

After a rough and long, but prosperous voyage from Liverpool, we arrived here this a.m. All on board are well and those who had been seasick most of the way, ~~are~~ now smiling and happy. Among these is Miss Demmon. It seemed as though her severe seasickness would seriously injure her health. But no trace of it now appears. It is pleasantly warm here — the first place that has not seemed to me cold & damp, since we left New York. My Indian life has taught me to prefer the moderate, regular, warmth of such a climate as this to the cold and damp and irregular climates of the countries and the seas in which I have spent the last four months.

We had head winds & a heavy swell against us most of the way, & the wind became a gale off the Portuguese coast, & again at Gibraltar & in the Adriatic region. But each Sunday and on Xmas, the sea was quieter; so that we had religious services in comfort. Rev J. Traill, a U. P. Scotch missionary to Rajputānā, Central India, for 19 years, and I, have conducted the meetings in concert. Rev P. Buck & family of the Meth. Epis. Mission to N. India joined us at Gibraltar, but he was too sea-sick to take part in the services. We have a pleasant set of passengers as well as officers. They are sociable and kind, but no one of them seems to be a decided Christian.

I am happy for having rec'd here a letter from Ahmednagar. It tells me that all our circle there are well - at their cold season village work - enjoying tent-life & the privilege of preaching from village to village -

I find that we can post letters at Suez, & so I will keep this till tomorrow morning and post it there - We hope to be there in the early morning, as we are to run in the night, using an electric light. To night will be a most interesting watch night. It will be kept by the sailors with more noise than devotion.

the villages - So are the Hardings & the Gates at Sholapur. I have not heard directly from the Winsors or Mrs. Sibley - From talking over the occurrences of the year I have been away, it seems as if I had been living in them & not at all as if I am just now back again - I have begun to ask about the most urgent demands for my service, and could wish it were possible to be in several places at once - I find that the grafted fruit trees brought along with me are not only living but are in fairly good condition. ~~And~~ by the time I have made a hurried visit to Perimāl Cottage & planted them out, I hope, the mission will have decided on my location. The good news I hear of the present attitude of the Women in the district around Wadālē, as one item the progress made there, leads me to be thankful that my work there is in better hands -

Best thanks for your letter just rec'd. Yours cordially
S B Fairbank

Rec'd Feb. 25.

A.C.d w.f.

S.S. Asia, Arabian Sea -
12 Jan'y 1889.

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Sec. A.B.C.F.M.
1 Somerset St. Boston Mass. U.S.A.

Dear Dr Clark

As we hope to reach Bombay on Monday morning, 14th, I will begin a letter to you before entering into the busy shore-life and at least express a little of the thankfulness I feel. The voyage has been restful and invigorating. I am thankful for the vigorous health and the eager desire with which I shall enter again on mission work. I was favored with letters from Ahmednagar &c. in London & Port Said and Suez - the later ones written after the writers had begun their tours and tent life for the cold season. I was thankful to read lines & between the lines that they were eagerly wishing for my speedy return - nor they alone but also the Native Christians & Hindu friends & acquaintances. In Am. I know I was not needed. In India I am needed, and I am thankful that I may look forward to doing work that cannot be done by another - i.e. work that no one is prepared to do & for which there can be no substitute till others get ready; and it is most important & necessary work - laying the foundations of many generations - winning souls - honoring God, and blessing men. And I am thankful to you & the Am. Bd. that you help me to reach the work and to give myself to it without the care of providing for my bodily wants in some other way. "The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places and I have a goodly heritage."

Bombay 14 Jan 1889 - It was a pleasant surprise to have my son Henry come aboard the Asia before she anchored. He appears to be in good health, and says that tent life has improved the health of Mrs F. and their boy as well as his own. I found Br E. S. Hume and family also in better health than I expected to - Miss Lyman is at Satara helping Mrs Sibley for a time, and Br Abbott has gone to visit Lalitpūr. Miss Anstice is in the mean time acting as his substitute and, leaving out his preaching, she proves a competent substitute. Excepting those who are kept in Ahmednagar by their duties in the College & Schools, the Nagar missionaries are on their cold season tours among

Mahābaleshwar 20 May 1889

Rev N. G. Clark D.D. Sec. A.B.C.F.M.

1 Somerset St. Boston Mass U.S.A.

Dear Sir, — Our Mission Meeting is near its close. And I am glad to say that it has been a harmonious & profitable meeting. In talking and corresponding with those who had come to hold strong opinions & to feel intensely for or against the style of mission life & expenditure in Bombay, I had concluded that the only way to restore harmony was to relieve those who disapproved, of the feeling that they were responsible for what they objected to. So I proposed that for 1890 the estimates for the Deccan, & for Bombay & the Konkan, be made separately and that the Bd, Sec.s & Prud. Com. be informed that the mis.s in each section were alone responsible for the estimates for that section; & that you at the Mis.y Rooms be asked to make appropriations for the two sections distinct from each other; & that, as the appropriations for the two sections for 89 are as 38 to 11, the $17000 (the same suggested by you as the limit for 1890) be divided in that proportion, to obtain the limit for each section. Some regarded this as a virtual division of the mission into two missions & the decision of the question was postponed till Oct. But the ventilation did good & all agreed to using the proportion (38:11) as a guide to limiting the Budget of Estimates for 90 for the 2 sections. And when the members had represented their needs & had cut down their requests to what each thought an excessively meagre supply, & their estimates were combined into the total, all present voted in approval of it! Two were away, but seem satisfied.

We all wish to use the money put in our hands in the most judicious ways, in the way that is likely to secure the best results. We, each of us, think that we could most profitably spend a much larger sum than what is allowed us. We appreciate the calls & needs & openings near us, more readily than those at a distance, & when our requests are not heeded, and those of others, which seem to us of more doubtful utility, are granted, we are ready to feel that there is partiality, or at least misunderstanding. Then it is hard to approve of plans & expenditures that are based on that misunderstanding. It is a pity, too, that there is such a close connection between the state of the liver or the spleen & the proper action of the mind & the heart & the conscience! And in India Either the liver or the spleen is very apt to be diseased in some way & to harmfully affect the rest of the body & the mind & spirit. ~~badly~~

The mission was very ready to appreciate my reasons for asking to be allowed to engage in evangelistic efforts where Providence should call me, rather than to be located in charge of a station, & voted approval of the course I proposed. I however signified my willingness to fill blanks temporarily in any of the departments of our mission work for which the mission thought me capable. Dr Ballantine had asked that I would come & help him in evangelistic work during the coming rainy season. As Mrs. B. has gone to Am. for a time, & he is one who depends on social helps more than some others, it is thought desirable that I should, on leaving this, go & work as his associate, for a while.

Experience has taught all that it desirable to educate those who are likely to be employed in a particular part of the country, among the surroundings amid which they are to work. Even such conservative men as Brn Harding and Gates have concluded that it is not only cheaper but more desirable every way to educate their native workers at Sholapūr. Their opinions & plans have changed greatly since I left India for the U.S.A in 87. Some of the workers here in the Satara & Wāī districts who came from the Nagar district, seem to suffer from chronic home-sickness. The climate is different & does not seem as good for the health of those who came from Nagar, especially for the health of their wives & children, as their native "air & water" do. But as yet there are not enough candidates from the native born Satara youth to supply the demand. So Nagar must continue to send workers. The reasons that make them reluctant about coming are as inexplicable to me as were the hindrances felt by young candidates for the ministry in Am^a. with regard to coming as missionaries to India. But they are just as effective in making it hard to secure a supply of the needed workers.

I find that the time of the sailing of the Mail Str. from Bombay changes this week & that our letters must go to day instead of on Thursday as heretofore, so I hastily close my letter with best wishes for yourself & family & the Cause

Yours Cordially

S. R. Fairbank

Will you kindly thank Dr Alden for his kindness in sending me a copy of the Report of the Centenary Conference on For. Miss. held in London 1888. Fraternally S.B.F.

Rev. S. B. Fairbank
Mahābaleshwa. May 20, 1889

Rec'd June 18

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new pamph-

Ahmednagar, Deccan, W. India 28 Oct 1889

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D. Sec'y A.B.C.F.M.
No 1. Somerset St. Boston, Mass. U.S.A.

Dear Dr Clark;—

A thankful word is due for the fine weather we have enjoyed during our Anniversary meetings and which promises to continue. After the long summer droughth six weeks of soaking rains were allowed us in Sept. & Oct. They ceased ten days ago and since then all has been clear and bright. A blanket is desirable in the night. One would say that a blanket is necessary, did he not see thousands around who have none, and yet are healthy and comfortable without blankets. These mornings and evenings the fresh air is just cool enough to make a brisk walk pleasurable. Only in the middle of the day one needs protection from the hot rays of the unclouded sun. May we hear of Indian Summer weather for your New York meeting. And hear all kinds of good news about that meeting.

"Our Anniversary meetings, which began Thursday morning Oct 24. and ended Sunday eve'g, have been are ended, and now the crowd which filled the church during three sessions daily for those four days, is dispersing. Those who came to the feast, will go to their village homes and tell those who could not come, the wonderful things they have seen and heard. The meetings were very interesting. The addresses were sensible, practical and suggestive; the prayers devout, though not as trustful as Mr Moody's;— the singing excellent, charming & inspiring; the audience quiet & attent.

At the evening sessions the audiences were largely of intelligent outsiders. Some of the seed sown must have fallen in good ground. May it speedily spring and bring forth fruit, a hundred fold."

When these meetings began I was suffering from an attack of Enteritis. It was then just at its crisis and I have not yet entirely recovered. So I could not sit through either of the sessions though I was enabled to give the preparatory lecture on Friday afternoon. There were so many able speakers that my help was not needed on the platform. My son Henry was attacked by a severe form of Ophthalmia last Monday & it kept him away from the meetings. Brn E.S. Hume, Gates and Abbott & Miss Abbott, also found it necessary to go away in the midst of the meetings. And Mrs Bissell was obliged to yield to Neuralgia and to keep her room for the last two days. But these all contributed their shares to the interest of the meetings before they went or were laid aside.

Br Abbott has been much engaged in organizing and directing "Xn Endeavor" work, in Bombay. His descriptions of it will be helpful to others who have yet to begin making special organizations of that kind. Br E.S. Hume's remarks were more about work in Sunday schools, for which he is specially adapted & in which he has been much engaged.

Br Gates was worn with effort, made to meet the demands of his large and growing diocese, and was depressed because of his lack of funds to do what he regards as imperatively necessary. He is oppressed with a burden. He had undertaken to carry more than he really had ability to carry. He says sorrowfully (in substance, for I cannot give his exact words) that the Prudential Committee can appropriate 50.000 Rupees for the Bowker

Hall, which is largely to be used as a dormitory for School girls. But they cannot appropriate for me, even a part of the Rs 2000 which I need so much ~~for~~ to help the new churches in my field put up the buildings in which they will worship and in which their children will attend school. The statement that the money for Bowker Hall is given by individual friends for that specialty, as a memorial of Mrs B. & that it would not be given to the general work of the Am. Bd., does not satisfy Br. G.. He says that there are many acknowledgements in the Mis'y Herald of collections for the School in Bombay, which are for that Hall, & which would have gone to the general funds of the Am. Bd. but for efforts made to divert them.

Brn Bissell, Ballantine, H. Fairbank and Harding are burdened from excessive outlay, just as Br Gates is, having gone beyond their means to meet what seemed to them imperative calls for aid. They did it in hope that the Prud. Com. w'd be able to allow this year, a part at least of the sums asked in our last year's list of "Preferred Contingent Estimates". Their loads oppress them less than Br G's oppresses him, & they do not look so haggard & worn as he does. Perhaps their livers are in better condition than his is!

When we read of the astonishing increase of wealth, which is in the hands of American Christians — an increase that makes it now $12.000.000.000 against the $1.085.000.000 to which it amounted in 1850. (See Estimates in the Miss'y Review for Oct 89 page 745) we wonder that Am'n Ch's cannot supply us with *abundant* "munitions of war"? — and that we do not receive the help, which we so sorely need & for which we ask of them by letter & of the Lord in prayer.

The Churches have sent us to the front & into the thick of the battle with only a half supply of cartridges.

30 Oct. The usual treatment has failed to cure Henry's sore eyes & by Dr Ballantine's advice he has gone to Bombay to consult Dr Mackonochie, the oculist (specialist) - In his absence I shall act for him at Wadale, going there tomorrow. Just after the vacation (for the Ann'y meetings, examinations &c), there is much special Station work to be done - to insure the machine's starting off again properly. I expect to spend Nov. in the Wadâlé district - itinerating after H's return. Then I am to go the Wâtwad district for evangelistic work there. I am now well of the attack of inflammation of my bowels, but weigh several pounds less than I did two weeks ago.-

We hope soon to welcome Mrs Ballantine & then the Bruces, on their return from Am^a. But we hear nothing of the Smiths coming back & fear that Miss Julia Bissell's health will continue to be poor. Mrs Bissell is now out of her sick chamber & hopes to get over her neuralgia by village work! In this delightful, cool weather all the ailments that have troubled us should fade out & disappear.

I am Yours faithfully

S B Fairbank

Ahmednagar, Oct. 28, 1889
Rec'd Nov. 27

Fairbank, Miss Katie

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Mahableshwar
Mar. 26th 1883.

My Dear Dr Clark

The thought hardly suggested itself to me that you would want me to write you a letter and tell you something about my work. And yet I am very happy to do so & glad that you have a desire to know. Ever since coming to India I have been exceedingly happy. After remaining a few days in Nagar I spent three months in Wadale with my father. There I studied and heard the language as much as I could. In this way I found I could understand long before I could talk fluently. I cannot say I remembered anything but often I felt a strange sensation in wanting to talk. My organs of speech seemed just ready to make the sound but the brain failed to supply the words. In looking back I can truly say that my only trial has been in not being able to talk. One feels so entirely helpless when the heart longs to tell the story of Christ's love. Then it is that this seems like an iron fetter. Everything was quite natural, even some faces were familiar. Wadale became like home again & I became much attached to people and school. After October Miss Harding and I came to Nagar to live. There we have very pleasant rooms & Mr & Mrs Bissell take most excellent & loving care of us. Since then we have been going into the school & studying. Miss Harding tells about the work so I will not repeat. Common conversation is very easy but I should hardly dare to venture a fifteen minute talk yet. You ask about our trials. I cannot think of any. To tell the truth missionaries are the kindest of people & they have been exceedingly kind to us. The work is a great source of happiness & we pray that our love for it may increase every month & year. We know you pray for us & it is a great source of strength to us. Please remember me with best love to Mrs Clark & Mary

Very sincerely you

Katie Fairbank.

Mahabuleshwar, March 26, 1883.
Rec'd Apr. 30. Ack'd

Wadale. India
November 5th 1884.

My dear Dr. Clark.

Your letter of Sep 15th was received a few days since and I answer it without delay. Please let me tell you just the facts about our getting money from America and then if you think we have done wrong and broken rules I shall be exceedingly sorry and I shall try not to do so again in the future.

For a long time Mrs. Bissell has felt the need of a house where the sick school girls could be properly taken care of. The house should not be attached to the other dormitories because in time of contagious diseases such as small pox cholera, measles &c. it would be far safer to have a separate building. This house we called the hospital so as to designate it from the other little houses. When Mrs Bissell spoke of it to us the idea seemed an excellent one as promoting the health interests of the school. By inquiry

Mahabuleshwar, March 26, 1883

we found that $250.00 would be sufficient to build it. Then naturally and without thinking it necessary to ask the mission we determined to get the money for it. I knew that the Bradford girls would like to have a share in it and I wrote to them through Miss Johnson to help us.

Miss Johnson wrote back promising us at least a hundred dollars. That amount has not yet been received.

There was no money asked for from Wellesley College but some fifty dollars was received from a Presbyterian Sabbath-School in Poughkeepsie N.Y. Now we did not desire to make this an institution as you think but simply an extra house of three rooms, where the sick could be taken care of. It is to be a part of the school and no extra person will be needed to care for it. My father and Mrs. Bissell knew that we had asked the money and they did not dissuade us from it and really Dr. Clark I had no idea that I was doing wrong. Please be assured that it was the farthest from my thoughts and please forgive us if we did wrong.

Our first school year has closed. We were earnest in the work. I believe God helped us over the hard places in a wonderful manner. In truth we hardly knew that a hard time had come till it was passed and then we saw the finger of God through it all leading and directing us. There are many things in which we can improve & I know we understand wherein we have failed this year and wherein better work can be done in the future. We _know_ we can do _nothing_ in ourselves and we desire above all that the Lord should prompt our every plan and every mode of action. Our best and highest desire for the school is that it may be blest spiritually. To this end we want your prayers and those of our friends. Abby is writing you a letter and she will tell you of her own future plans.

We have found it a delight to work together and the future must decide what can done to fill her place. I hear from friends who sometimes tell me of Mary. I am glad to hear that Clara is at Bradford She will be well cared for while Miss Johnson is there. Dr. Clark we are very happy here, everyone is very kind and loving and I feel quite safe in saying that during all my years in America I was never so perfectly happy as I feel here. I love ~~the~~ people and the work and I only pray that I may do the work the Lord has for me to do faithfully all well. Please remember me ~~to~~ cordially to those whom I knew in the house at West Roxbury.

Very Sincerely yours.
Katie Fairbank.

Wadale, Nov. 5. 1884.
Rec'd Dec. 6.

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Ahmednagar India.
June 29th 1885.

My dear Dr. Clark.

You will have received the estimates of the Marathi Mission for 1886 mailed to you last week.

Among the contingents there is a request for rupees four hundred for a new hospital room for the Girls' School Ahmednagar.

We are in great need of this house for sick girls. The necessity seems to us so great that we take the liberty to ask you to garantee us the favor of this grant even before you will be able to write concerning the estimates for next year so that we may begin to build as speedily as possible.

I have written to the Woman's Board about this matter and hope they will assume the responsibility of providing the funds as it has to do with woman's work. The school seems unusually full this term and seems to be doing good faithful work. Hoping that we have not troubled you to much by this request

I am Very Sincerely yours.
R. Fairbank.

Ahmednagar, June 29./85,

Rec'd Aug. 1.

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R.

Gates, Rev. Lorin S.

Gates, Rev. Lorin S.

Sholapur, Jan. 25, 1881.

My Dear Dr. Clark:

Your letter of June 11th 1880, accompanied by some tracts and books, was duly received. I should have replied to this long ago. Thank you for the tracts. I have looked them over, and think they may be useful. The catechism & "Milk for Babes", with a few changes, might be an improvement on the ones which we use in our schools. They will have to be translated before we can use them much at this station. We have a promising class of about a dozen beginners in English who will take up such books with pleasure after a time.

Your letter about Miss Ogden, of Sept. 24. 1880, was also duly received. Of course it would have been pleasanter for me if no mention had been made of my letter, in your interviews with her; but if it seemed necessary, & if it helped you ~~to~~ in a work which seemed unpleasant but necessary for the highest good of Christ's church, I can willingly endure any little squall which may blow over from America.

Miss Ogden wrote me a few weeks ago, and seemed to be considerably excited about what I had written. She said that my letter to you was both "unkind" & "unjust." She said that you intended all the time to have her return to India, but after hearing my letter she decided not to come, & told you that she never could come to Sholapur, & labor with one who had treated her so shamefully. She seemed especially indignant at what I wrote about her use of money. But she herself said to several persons here (including Miss Norris) that she used all the money which a certain family paid her for her own private purposes. That family are intimate friends of ours, & when they heard from Miss O's lips that she used this money in that way, it made them very much dissatisfied. They then counted up what they had paid her within a year, & found it Rs. 350. Miss O. openly spoke of having used Rs. 100 which another family paid her, for private purposes, and asked me if I did not think it was right for her to do so. I have no doubt that she used more money than this in the same way, but I have not so good evidence of it. There were several things sold as her private property, when she went away, which she bought with money from the dis=

pensary funds. She confessed this, but gave as an excuse the opinion that the mission had not been very liberal with her. This we know better than others from the fact that Mrs. G. helped her make out a list of furniture for sale.

Will some of the friends of Miss O., who feel so indignant at what has been done, kindly inquire what has become of the clock which the ladies of Pittsfield, I think, sent out for the dispensary. If Miss O. has carried out her purpose expressed while in Bombay about that clock, it will not be likely to call forth similar gifts in future.

Well, I hope to dismiss this subject from my thoughts hereafter. I wrote Miss O. a reply, denying any unkind, &, so far as I could judge, unjust feeling toward her; & trying to quiet her a little.

We are all well now, & hope to start this week for a tour of a month in the Mogalai. The semi-annual are in the hands of the auditing committee, & will probably go to Mr. Ward by this mail.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

Rev. N. G. Clark D.D.

Jan. 25, 1881

Rec'd March 1, 1881

Sholapur, India, Sept. 5, 1881.

My Dear Dr. Clark:

Your letter of Apr. 6th was duly received. My last letter to you was in Jan. I think. There is a feeling prevalent in our mission that each missionary should report to you once in a few months. There is nothing here very striking to report, in comparison with what is going on in other mission fields. Fish do not come in schools here, & our fishing is with the line & hook. And often when we "get a bite," we lose the prize before we can draw him out of the deep water. We are carrying on work in rather more regular lines than we have before. That is, we have determined on certain things which we will follow up, & let others go, unless we have time for them. We have regular meetings either for Christians or for the heathen nearly every day in the week. Our schools are generally prospering, & there is more of an interest here among our Christians to have their children educated than we have seen before. A little firmness has brought them to the point of paying fees & buying books without murmuring. The church members are paying tithes, as a rule, & although we have no pastor, the church supports a man in the Theo. Class who will probably become our pastor. Besides this, the church is using tithes which are not needed for the support of this man, in other benevolent work, mostly according to their own wishes. Yesterday a young man of good caste & fair promise for usefulness was received into the church, also a daughter of a Native Christian. There are in my class for inquirers, several young persons who want to join the church as soon as it seems desirable. Our dispensary is a help in bringing us into connection with the people. The receipts are increasing, & it promises to become selfsustaining sometime. Now the proceeds pay for medicines, & about half the salary of the "medical catechist", as we call him. Three persons of high caste have become acquainted with us through the dispensary, & are convinced of the truth, but are not ready to receive baptism *openly*. We hope & pray that they may come. We are much interested in a girl about 14 years old who was recently brought by one of our Bible women. Her father was the chief man in his village, about eight miles from here. All the family died during the famine, except this girl. She wandered about, & was supported by one & another, until at last she became the mistress of a Parsee. She knew no better, until our Bible woman taught her. She was then in the midst of several fires. She had been to the Catholics, & had learned more than she cared about the confessional. The Mussulmans were doing all they could to get her, & it is almost a miracle that she came here. She has known us for some years, but we have not known her. She has been told that we were very bad people, but the reasons she gives for finally disbelieving these stories shows that she has had her eyes open, & is not a fool. She has been tried since coming here, & is willing to eat coarse bread that does not agree with her rather than live in the luxury that she has been accustomed to. The Parsee, with whom she was, did not oppose her coming to us at first, but when he saw that she was going to leave him entirely, he became angry, & he has had spies all about our yard for several days past to use fair means & foul to get her back. She seems to have a good deal of firmness & character for one so young. Her fathers property, to which she is the only heir, was probably disposed of by Govt. so that we cannot get it now.

In the outstations work is not going on as well as I wish it were, partly because I cannot get time to visit them as much as I would like. Difficulty arose not long ago between two of our agents in the Dhotri church. One of them got the church to dismiss the other without letting me know anything about it until afterwards. The trouble seems to be a little injudicious talk between the two persons, & a good deal of groundless jealousy & spite. The whole case shows how church discipline would degenerate, if left entirely to the natives at present.

In the church at Watwad work is more satisfactory. Good reports come from there, & additions are being made. The relation of the Christians to the higher castes is such as to win their respect, & the Christians have lived down persecution until their former enemies are doing their best to help them build a school house, expect to send their children to school with the low caste Christians. The work in that church is, in many respects, anomalous to mission work in India.

Mrs. Gates is pretty well now, but was confined to her bed for about two months from the 20th June. Your fears about my health, expressed in a recent letter to Dr. Bissell, are groundless.

We are very sorry to hear that Mr. Park has thoughts of remaining in Amer. I think it is not the best expenditure of missionary effort to send Mr. Abbott to Bombay for Hindusthani work but we hope good may be done there.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

Sholapur. Sept. 5. 1881

Rec'd Oct. 10

thinks of coming to Sholapur, to ask her what her ideas are about collecting fees. The women of Sholapur are not as much afraid of missionaries as they were a few years ago, & our girls' school is not so easily broken up by flying rumors. I have had two exhibitions of Sciopticon pictures in our chapel for women exclusively, & the numbers were very good. They were not frightened by explanations of the pictures which involved a good deal of Gospel truth. This work of breaking down prejudices can be carried on much farther & faster by a lady physician than in almost any other way. But I fear there is no use in talking about Miss Norris for Sholapur.

The young Marathi girl of whom we wrote you has yielded for the time to the strong inducements held out to her to return to her former life. But we see her occasionally, & she will yet be saved we hope, in spite of all her deceivers. They worked through one of our orphan boys, who has given us so much trouble that we have had to send him away.

Very sincerely yours,
L. S. Gates.

Sholapur district.
Nov. 30. 1881.

My Dear Dr. Clark: Rec'd Jan. 11, 1882

Please excuse this paper. I am in the wilderness, in the Biblical sense, waiting for my tent. Your letter with reference to Miss Norris coming to Sholapur was received two weeks ago.

In the first place, unless she has changed her mind about this matter since she left India, there is no need of saying a word about it. She visited Sholapur before starting for America, & we learned afterwards that she had received letters in which the question of her returning to Sholapur was proposed. We then wrote to her about it, & her reply was *quite* *decided*. She referred to two objections. (1) The dry heat of Sholapur, which she thought would be too much for her, and (2) she thought her work would tell more in Bombay than in Sholapur.

With no reference at all to what Miss Norris thinks about going to Sholapur I will say that we should be very glad to have her come there if she felt that she could come and enjoy good health. The people of Sholapur often speak of Miss Ogden, & are very anxious that she should return, or that some one should come in her place. The Parsees proposed to write to her, sending a formal invitation for her to return, but were advised not to by some of our native Christians.

If a lady physician were at Sholapur, our medical catechist could go out to the surrounding villages oftener. I would like very much to have him with me now in the Mogalai, but if he shuts his dispensary for a few weeks, he is obliged to begin again under great disadvantages, as we have already seen. Prabhakar likes to preach & to ~~talk~~ with people whenever he has an opportunity, & it might be well for him to go about from place to place more than he does, though I cannot speak very confidently on this point. Prabhakar's work has been gradually increasing, & the number of patients during the first nine months of this was a little more than double the number for the same time last year. I have not the figures here, but think the proceeds of the dispensary amount to about half of Prabhakar's salary besides covering the cost of the medicines.

I want him to attend to his profession, and keep posted up in it, rather than make it secondary to preaching.

Sholapur District, India, Feb. 8, 1882.

My Dear Dr. Clark:

Your last letter is not by me, but this seems to be my best time for writing. I have been out in tents during this cold season about a month, and hope to be out nearly a month more. The treasurer's work keeps me at Sholapur for about a month of the best time for touring. I have felt more free to go away this year than last, because we now have a pastor for our church, and help has come not infrequently in keeping up services among the Railway people. Since Mr. Harding went away I have not been able to get out among the people in the surrounding villages much, and the result is apparent in a tendency to settle back into Hinduism, where there seemed to be real interest in Christianity a while ago. I have a catechist who came to help me in this district work, but for more than a year he has been scarcely able to get about near his home, and is still troubled with lameness.

I am now camping at a village where there are two of the brightest of our orphan boys. I say *ours*, for they have been with us for about four years. They were contented & happy, & were getting on nicely in learning to work, as well as in their school studies.

They are about twelve years old. One of them was remarkably intelligent. Mrs. Gates said she never took so much interest in teaching anyone as ~~that~~ she did in teaching that boy. He was the leader of his class in Marathi, & could read simple English & understand it. The boys were both of good caste. They had distant relatives in the village & they persuaded the boys to leave us. It made Mrs. Gates nearly sick for some days, but we have begun to feel reconciled to it in a measure. I have hopes that they will yet be found among the faithful at a later day. Their relatives are poor & they have to work hard where they now are, & what the charm of Hinduism is for them is more than I can tell. But one thing is true, viz. Hindus are most thoroughly taught that it is a great crime to break away from family & caste customs. A physician who has been very kind to us at Sholapur, a Portugese man, has had a good deal to say about sending companies of Hindus to America, as the Chinese & Japanese have done. He has decided to raise subscriptions for the purpose, I think. I only regret that he is a Catholic. But he is not a bigoted one.

I have not much to say about the reductions, except that I wish other societies would allow us to cut down expenses still more. If much is said

Self-support se

to our native Christians they point to other societies and say how much more they do for their converts. My (I think righteous) indignation was aroused not many days ago by our medical catechist. He is a fine young man in some ways, and I have great comfort in talking our mission matters with him. He was a brahman of Sholapur, & is able to help very much in reaching the higher castes in the city. His medical work is growing, & as it is more selfsupporting than any other work of the kind that I know of in India, I have tried to be fairly generous with him in trying to make his home & surroundings comfortable. His home & dispensary were new last year, but he wished a few changes & repairs this year, which I consented to make. On going one day to see how they were going on, he asked, (at the instigation of his wife, I think) how he could have the windows in his kitchen cleaned. I replied that I thought his wife could do it. He said she was not accustomed to do such work, & the windows were very smoky, as cooking had been done in the room, & people told him that chalk & other things were necessary to make them clean. I told him that soap & water were sufficient, & I was ashamed to think he should ask me to have this done at mission expense. I told him that Mrs. Gates not only washed the windows, but put on oil on the frames, (a common & necessary thing to be done in this country) in the room which Miss Graham has just come to occupy. He said that our situation was different, & it was no disgrace for us to do it. I replied that it seemed to be time for a general talk on such matters. He said that it was best not to say much, as it only tended to cause hard feelings. However I did ask him some plain questions, & expect to have a talk with the church about this matter sometime. I asked how long it would take the native Christians at this rate to come up to the standpoint of other Christian countries. Our missionary ladies are not *required* to do mission work, but they feel it their *duty* as well as privilege to do so, yet very few of our mission native women are willing to work without pay. His wife is among those who will not. We wanted her to teach a girls' school. She consented to do so for Rs 10 per month, & *did* teach for a while. Her excuse for taking so much was that she was obliged to hire some one to help her in the house. But Rs. 4 would have hired *all* her housework done, & yet she would not consent to take less than Rs 10. Contrary to her confident assertions, ~~to the contrary~~ that we could not we afterwards secured a better teacher for less pay.

I have gone into particulars about this case because it shows some of the difficulties that we meet with. It may not be best to make these facts too public. Use your own judgement. In happy contrast to the above I was, not long ago, glad to see a son of Ramkrishnaprent, who has since passed his matriculation examination, go out, in the presence of a housefull of company, his intended among them, and milk his fathers cows.

Rec'd March 21.

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Panchgani, April 20, 1882.

Dear Dr. Clark:

You must be weary of hearing the same old story of large expenditure and small results from our mission fields. I have nothing very different from this to report. but there are some things which are perhaps worth a passing notice.

"A pastor was ordained at Sholapur Jan. 12th, and the church is in a prosperous condition so far as general good feeling & tithe giving are concerned. Most of the church members have given tithes regularly the past year. There are more than enough to pay the pastor's salary month by month, & the church is now considering what to do with the surplus. One man who had given his word that he would pay his tithe for a year wanted to stop at the end of three months, from no good reason. He was remonstrated with for wanting to break an agreement which would be considered binding in ordinary business matters.

"I am often reminded of what a Vermont farmer once said:- "It requires some principle for a farmer, weary with six days' work, to get up Sunday morning & resolve to go to church." These people have not any well formed principle, & they are inclined to give or not according to the impulse of the moment when the tithe is asked. The pastor is a general favorite, & we hope for good under his ministry. I should have been glad of his help during the two years of Mr Harding's absence, but we have got on & done what we could.

We are thankful for the privilege of having Miss Graham with us. She is disposed to make herself useful, & helps Mrs. Gates in a great many ways.

Our orphans - 20 in all now - are doing well. We want them all to learn something in school, & then we expect to put them to work according to their tastes & ability. We are digging a well in our yard, ploughing up 2½ acres of land, & preparing some garden work for them the coming season.

From some recent letters received a new question arises about retrenchment. viz. whether we must cut down expenses in the exact places where you have cut them, or whether we are allowed to use our own discretion in cutting an equal amount where we think it can be done most wisely. When your letter came I looked over my estimates, & saw that I could not, as I thought, prudently cut where you had indicated, but could cut an equal amount in other places. So also Bro. E. S. Hume could not easily cut just as you suggested, but could, as it seemed to me, cut an equal amount in other places. E.g. Rs. 600 for a Marathi preacher is not being used,

& so with other sums.

The appropriations for the Bombay house seem strangely misunderstood. We were afraid a while ago that this house matter would be settled & we should miss that fruitful subject for discussion in our mission meetings! — but there is no immediate prospect of such a calamity befalling us. I think Mr. Ward has given me good reason to understand the grants for the house differently from the way in which he has recently explained them. See my letter to him of the 12th inst. Our Secretary will write you about this, he says, as soon as he can get the necessary facts. I think that Rs. 12000 + 3000 (for Mr. Abbott,) would be sufficient if we could use the proceeds of the sale of the old house. The new house must be covered before the rains, & the proceeds of the old property are not available now, as I understand it, owing to our inability to give a legal title. I know very little about how matters now stand. But we have spent considerably more than the 12000 + 3000.

Mrs. Gates is confined to her bed at present. We felt pretty well, & resolved to stay at Sholapur until about April 1st, which we did. But the latter part of March was very hot, & Mrs. Gates was weakened by the heat. Several things combined to bring her to her present condition. A daughter was born, prematurely, a week ago, but lived only a few hours. Mrs. Gates is now doing well.

I am studying Marathi some now which I very need, but have had little time to do since Mr. Harding went home.

Very sincerely yours
L. S. Gates.

Rec'd May 20

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Sholapur, India, July 24, 1882.

My Dear Dr. Clark:

Your letter of May 17th relative to the houses at Bombay, was received in due time. I wrote to Mr. Hume for further particulars, & have waited for his reply. He is so busy that it is difficult for him to attend to these matters, & I have not heard anything from him except what came in his semi-annual mission account.

I forward by this mail, under another cover, a copy of the estimates for the construction of the new house at Bombay. The house was built, I understand, after this plan, in general; but has been varied somewhat & built by day labor instead of by contract.

Mr. Hume's accts. show that the following has been paid for the house, out-houses & School house. He has not kept the accts. of the house & school house separate.

Whole sum spent for House, Sch. House & land		Rs. 36.865-6-1
Deduct cost of land for all these buildings	7.842.	
Deduct paid for School House by the Board.	7.000	14.842
Cost of bungalow & out-houses - - -		Rs. 22.023-6.1

Mr. Hume writes that no more will be needed for any of these buildings. The above figures include the cost of changes for Mr. Abbott, as I understand it. Mr. Hume writes that he expects to sell the old property & return the proceeds (some Rs. 20.000) to the Board before the end of this year.

The number of rupees paid for land indicate the number of square yards. One rupee per sq. yard. I am told that a rupee per square foot has been offered for it since we bought it. I have not seen the place, but suppose it is a good site for our purpose.

Mr. Hume reports in the Inventory of mission property in Bombay that the Board paid Rs. 7000 for the new School House, & that others paid Rs 1000 making the total cost of the Sch. House 8000. See our minutes of mission meeting May 1882 for resolution about the grant for the School House. I cannot find as the money for it was ever granted, & yet see the following resolutions of our mission:— Res. IX May 1879, Res. 8 Oct. 1879 & Res. 5 Oct. 1880. As this matter was under way & a committee was appointed to go on & build before I became Treas., I feel disposed to shirk as much of the responsibility of this as possible. I ought not to have allowed

Mr. Hume to spend more than Rs. 6000 however - this seems supposed to have been granted. But he has not kept the accts. separate, & I could not keep track of them. By whom the Rs 1000 "given by others" came I cannot say. - probably from Mr. Hume's friends.

Your letter of May 23d is at hand. I have not defrauded any man nor taken any man's money by force for church purposes. I have told the Christians often that I should not take their tithes unless they gave them willingly - & the teachers who were assembled here not long ago had quite a laugh over the idea, when suggested to them, that I had used undue pressure in collecting the tithes. The famine put our people into loose habits about regular payments, & it needed some talk to wake them up. One of my personal servants had made a promise to pay regularly to the church for a year. He made this promise not to me but to the church treasurer. In two months, for no cause whatever he proposed to break his agreement. I told him that I did not care to keep a servant who would not keep his word any better than that. There is an old (friendly) quarrel in our mission about the way of collecting tithes. Mr. Harding does not approve of a missionary receiving tithes from their agent.

when pay goes through his hands. Mr. Fairbank is of a different opinion. I have followed Mr. F. rather than Mr. H. the last year, but now the people have become somewhat regular in giving, & lost the irregular habits of the famine, to some extent; & I am not going to insist on any definite method. If you wish to get sound views on the methods of collecting church tithes, I recommend your referring to Messrs Fairbank & Harding!

All well, but Mrs. Gates is not strong.

We are glad to welcome the Hardings.

Very sincerely yours

L. S. Gates.

Sholapur, July 29. 1882

Rec'd Aug 28.

one to give him a new name, as I was his second mother. I chose Zivan, meaning "Life." I told him whenever he should hear his new name, he must remember through whom he should receive true life.

There are several others of the orphans, who are serious, & are thinking of uniting with the church. The first Sabbath in October three of the school-children, & this boy of mine came forward, & were received into the church.

Our last year of work at Sholapur has been a most happy one, & we have been very much encouraged. When Mr. Bruce was with us last February, he said he had never seen so interesting a field, thought all our Christians seemed so wide awake. They have given their tithes — more than enough to support the pastor — have paid school fees, & purchased all books.

Kind love to Mrs. Clark.

Mahableshwar,
Oct. 25th '82.

My dear Mr. Clark,

My conscience has troubled me for months, for not having written you. I received two letters from you in the spring, the latter contained your photograph, & was written by yourself, which made me very proud. I intended answering immediately, but the heat was very trying, we were doing all the work we could do, preparatory to leaving it for a while, while we should be away. I hoped to have much leisure while at the Hills, & intended to write numberless letters, so laid aside all my correspondence. You will have heard of the premature sickness, & of the death of the little one. This laid me aside for a long time, & I could not recover from the terrible blow, for weeks, & could not readily pick up the broken threads

Yours very sincerely
Fanny H. C.

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of daily tasks. I have not been getting better as I hoped, & finally my nerves got the mastery, & it seemed necessary for me to get an entire rest. This was impossible while I stayed at Solapur, so I have come up to this quiet spot, & am finding the rest I have so long needed. It was a good time to come, as Mrs. Harding is feeling fresh, & it was easier to leave the work, though it was a trial to do so. I fear however, the burden will fall heavily on Mrs. Harding.

I have a good trusty man to look after my orphans, so Mrs. Harding will not have that care.

I have already derived great benefit from my two weeks stay here. I resolved when I came away to leave all anxiety about my work, behind me, & this freedom from care is resting to my nerves, which received a strain during the famine they have never recovered from.

I was enjoying my work very much. my schools were prospering, the teachers have been more interested since adopting government standards, & the scholars were getting enthusiastic (for this country) & were doing well. It was a trial to leave it all. I have been trying for a few months to raise the standard of the Christian women, & it was pleasant to see the fruits in the little changes in their homes. I could not do a great deal among the heathen women, but tried to reach them through the Christian women, & perhaps did more than I could have done personally.

My orphan-work has been very pleasant. One was recently received into the church. For five years he has been trying to live a Christian life. His name was formerly "Death". He has wished it changed, & wished me to be the of daily tasks. I have not been getting better as I hoped, & finally my nerves got the mastery, & it seemed necessary for me to get an entire rest. This was impossible while I stayed at Sholapur, so I have come up to this quiet spot, & am finding the rest I have so long needed. It was a good time to come, as Mrs. Harding is feeling fresh, & it was easier to leave the work, though it was a trial to do so. I fear however, the burden will fall heavily on Mrs. Harding.

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Mahableshwar, March 29. 1883.

My Dear Dr. Clark:

Bro. Harding suggests that it is our duty to write home more frequently than we do. Whether this is true in my case or not I cannot say but will mention a few incidents which have happened in connection with my work the past few months.

You probably remember that Mrs. Gates' health was such that it seemed best for her to come to the hills in the early part of October. Since then I have been in the Sholapur districts most of the time touring. Although my plans have not been carried out as fully as I hoped they would be, yet I have visited, and preached more or less, in about seventy villages during the past cold season, remaining in some of the larger towns a week or more, and revisiting several times places where there seemed to be special interest. The catchist who accompanies me has visited some places where I have not been. The remark which you made just before I left America, about you not caring to know how many thousands had been visited and preached to *once*, has not been forgotten. But an *occasional* tour to the regions beyond our ordinary limits seems to be desirable at times. I have never had a pleasanter, and apparently more profitable, tour than during the last cold season. I went lightly equipped, and could collect my things, take down my tent and start off in about an hour's time. There were advantages in this mode of touring, yet if Mrs. Gates could have been with me, the work in some places would have been more satisfactory. Being alone I could not preach to the women, especially of the higher castes, except as they came to the sciopticon exhibitions. These exhibitions drew out all classes, and were given in many places which I visited. I am so thoroughly convinced of the usefulness of the sciopticon for touring that I feel like recommending it as an indispensable article in the outfit of every missionary. During the touring season, in this part of India, the weather in the evening is such that exhibitions can be given in the open air in any place where the people can assemble. The whole apparatus, as I have it arranged, can be put up ready for use in an open plain in fifteen minutes. The audiences where I have been the past season have varied from one hundred (in one very small town) to fifteen hundred. It has given me opportunities to speak to educated natives and to those in high positions under the Government, whom I could have reached in no other way, and generally there has been no objection to plain and pointed preaching. Beginning soon after dark, I have generally continued for an hour and a half or two hours, the audience always increasing ~~to~~ till the close. The influence of these exhibitions has not been limited to the persons present. One day I was hailed by a party of men on the road who asked me if I was the man who had been preaching in a certain place. "Yes." "Well, saheb, we have one question to ask: How is it that there is salvation in your religion and not in ours?"

bis" =
tors.
A.H.

(cultivators)

In other places the *Kunbis made remarks to our native agents like this:— "There is probably truth in your religion, and our Brahman teachers have not allowed us to hear about it before."

Opposition to the preaching has sometimes been shown by the Brahmans, and two or three unsuccessful attempts have been made to break up the exhibitions. Once my screen was thrown down, and after putting it up again two false alarms were given at which the people rose and fled pell-mell, but only to come back again very soon. At one time a Government school teacher in a large town came and stood near me as I was speaking. After a little he asked permission to propose a question, which was granted. He then said he wished to reply to some things which I had said. I told him that there was not time to do so then. As he lived in the place, he could preach to the people at another time. I was not going to be there long, and wished to tell the people as much as possible about things which I was fully convinced were true. Being requested to sit down (as he prevented others seeing by standing up) he had the good sense to see that the prevailing feeling in the audience was in my favor, and quietly sat down.

A more carefully planned disturbance was begun one evening by a Brahman and a number of his associates. After trying several times to "get the floor," he gave orders in a loud tone to all his friends that when I showed pictures *without preaching*, I might go on; but when I began to speak of the Bible they must make a noise and interrupt me. He attempted for a time to follow out this plan. I was a little puzzled to know how to proceed, but did not feel inclined to yield.

I slipped in a picture of the whale. Instead of telling about Jonah, I spoke of a good many other things of interest in connection with the animal, and followed with a picture of the cobra. The audience had become quiet, but this picture, as usual, riveted their attention still more closely. After speaking of the deaths in India from the bite of this and other snakes, (about 18000 yearly), and giving other ~~interesting~~ facts about the snake, I suddenly changed the subject, and said:- "As the poison of the cobra is in the body, so is the poison of sin in the soul. The poison is very little in quantity, but works rapidly and surely; so with a little sin. No remedy has been found for the cobra's bite. One and only one has been proved effectual for sin. The snakes in this country generally move at night. So Satan's work is one of darkness, brought to bear upon us when we are asleep in indifference. The Savior was promised to bruise the serpent's head. Government offers a reward for killing the cobra. A reward is promised to those who overcome sin." The subject is a fruitful one *and* No opposition was shown to the preaching. I followed with Scripture pictures and more preaching, and there was no *more* disturbance!

Sometimes I have given quite a temperance lecture in connection with a picture suggestive of the subject. Astonishment is expressed at the Bible declaration that no drunkard can enter heaven. They say:- "All *sahebs* drink", which is nearer the truth than the natives often come. One evening a Mussulman asked why God created intoxicating liquor if he did not intend we should drink it. I replied:- "There are a great many plants in the fields which are poisonous, God created them, but not for us to eat." I asked him if his donkeys would eat poisonous plants. "No". Said I: "See here, these animals without reason know what was designed for them to eat. they will not drink wine, but"— The idea of comparing the man to his donkeys began to dawn upon the minds of the people, and they indulged in a good laugh at the Mussulman's expense.

Some incidents of the tour were not so pleasant. For instance frequent overturnings of the cart with my sciopticon and other things more useful to me than the driver seemed to think they were to him: and again being obliged to spend a day and night without food & bedding except what a poor country village could provide, and this through carelessness in carrying out orders. — There has been special interest in a place where a teacher has lived for about two years. Some have been baptized recently, and others seem anxious to know more, with a purpose apparently of giving up their former religion. Among those already baptized are two gosavis.

The orphans with us at Sholapur are doing well, and we have hopes that they will continue to do so. The oldest of them have shown signs of deep religious feeling. One has been received to the church, and others attend voluntarily the pastor's class for inquirers which is held weekly.

Their work in the garden, which was begun last year, has been a fair success. Digging a well, fencing, levelling, &c. have cost us a good deal thus far, but we hope the balance of the account will be in our favor financially another year. We shall get this year about Rs. 100. for cotton raised on about one and a half acres of land. Cotton and tomatoes have been our most profitable crops. One advantage of the garden, as we hope it will prove, will be that not only our orphans, but children of Christians who live away from school privileges can come and work and earn something towards their support while going to school. The applications for such a position are coming in already faster than I had anticipated.

With kind regards to yourself and family, in which Mrs. Gates joins me,

Yours very sincerely,

L. S. Gates.

Forwarded, with thanks for the privilege of reading, by A. Hazen.

May 1st 1883.
Deerfield, Mass.

Mahableshwar, March 27,

Rec'd May 2.

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Sholapur, Sept. 27, 1883.

My Dear Dr. Clark:

When the Estimates for the Marathi Mission for 1883 were made out, a lump sum of Rs. 5000 was asked to cover the premium on gold. As gold was then, this sum was thought to be sufficient. But the rate so far this year has been higher than we expected. As near as I can calculate, we shall need Rs. 700 more to cover the premium on gold for the year. I mentioned this in a letter to Mr. Ward some time ago, but perhaps the request for a further allowance should come before the Prudential Committee through you. I am anxious that every rupee charged in the accounts hereafter should be authorized by the Prudential Committee.

There are two persons in the mission who, notwithstanding all the instructions from Boston, both theoretically & practically insist on charging what they have spent, without much regard to Allowances. They say that it is impossible to tell beforehand just what will be needed, and, if necessary, extra charges should be allowed afterwards. I have been troubled some, & Mr. Ward more, by charges in accounts over & above allowances, and am anxious to have this remedied if possible. Clouds seem to hang about over the coming semi=annual accounts. The acct. of the Bombay House is not settled yet. I trust Mr. E.S. Hume will get permission before 1884 to charge a sum (Rs. 866+) spent beyond appropriations for the Dnyanodaya in 1882. Bro. Winsor promised to send me his account for Jan. to March from Aden, but nothing has come yet. I have written him, & hope that that cloud will soon disappear.

There is more religious interest in my field than I have ever seen before, & about fifteen persons are now candidates for baptism, not all promising ones perhaps. I have been having a series of Sciopticon exhibitions in our chapel,– am to have one this evening for educated natives of Astronomical views, & some next week for native women. Mr. Harding & I have had English lectures on Saturday evenings for natives. Our daily preaching exercises are attended with interest, & are more quiet than they have been sometimes.

Yours very sincerely,

L. S. Gates.

Rec'd Oct. 29.

Sholapur, India, Jan. 16. 1884.

My Dear Dr. Clark:

Your letter of Nov. 21st reached me just before the close of the year, while I was out touring with my family. We have been out most of the time since Nov. 20th. We should be out now if it were not for the necessity of making out mission accounts. Mr. Park put it strongly once when he said, in reply to my repeated requests for his account, "I wish there were no accounts." It is not pleasant to leave such an interesting work as we were engaged in while touring, for the sake of satisfying Mr. Ward that we have been tolerably honest during the past year! I hope all the treasurers do not give Mr. Ward as much trouble as I have.

In regard to the premium on gold, referred to in your letter, Mr. Ward wrote me Sept. 18th, "Charge what you have to pay — the current rate — on the amount of salaries. I understand the Committee to vote gold (rupees) only for salaries of missionaries." Before your letter came, I had made out and sent off the accounts of the brethren with the mission treasurer for the last six months of 1883, telling them to charge as Mr. Ward had suggested. As some of the brethren were away from home when your letter came, and there would be delay in sending letters to them, I saw that there would be delay and confusion in making up the annual acct. if I attempted to change instructions then. So the gold premium will be charged in the account for Dec 31st. I think we shall not overrun the aggregate of our allowances for the year. If the charge of gold premium is not allowed we will try to do our best to get on without it.

In regard to the Rs. 866+ charged to Bro. E.S. Hume for expenses in excess of allowances for Printing in 1882 – both you and Mr Ward speak of it as spent "under the direction of the mission." If it was reported as spent in this way, it was a misrepresentation. The business management of the Dnyanodaya has been in Bro. E.S. Hume's hands since Mr. Park went home. But the mission never has intimated that he could overrun the allowances, any more than any one else could overrun in other things. No one knew that he was expecting to overrun until his account for 1882 came in – so late that I had barely time to include it in the account for Dec. 31st to Mr Ward. Mr. Ward wrote me March 28, 1883, "You ought not to have allowed the charge, but if the money was expended without your consent, then the item should have been put at the debit of those who incurred the debt until relief was obtained

from the Committee or otherwise." and added You will please see to this, your charge being disallowed.
Consequently it became necessary for *some one* to write to the Board about it. Mr. Hume seemed to be the only proper person to do this, and I saw no other way but to charge the sum to him and ask him to write to Boston. He objected, and I consulted Bro. R. A. Hume (editor of the Dnyanodaya) and Bro. Harding, one of the Financial Committee.
Bro. R.A. Hume wrote:- "I do not see how any one can be responsible for the accounts of the Dnyanodaya except my brother." Bro. Harding saw no way but for me to charge the sum to Bro. E.S. Hume as I did. This matter was brought up in our last mission meeting, and at Mr. E.S. Hume's request, the mission voted to ask the Prudential Committee for the sum. But the general opinion was that I did right in charging it as I did. The excess was really about Rs. 1400, all of which, it was said, might properly be charged to Bro. E.S. Hume. But the sum was reduced, as I thought it fairly might be, by receipts for books & papers, to Rs. 866+. But if I did wrong in charging it I am glad to have the wrong righted.
At any rate, I am glad that Bro. Hume is relieved, and I think he will be more careful in future.

I note what you say about a special grant for Mr. Abbott's work of Rs. 525, also your suggestion about the outfit of missionaries going home. I will call the attention of the mission to this last point.

I think Mrs. Gates has her pen in hand to write you.

Very Sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

Rec'd Feb. 23

Sholapur, August 23d '84.

My dear Dr. Clark:

Enclosed please find a letter from Dr Fairbank relative to the Bombay house. I am very sorry that we have given you so much trouble about the house. I do not see how we could have done better, as Dr. F. writes, unless some one had gone down to Bombay to live & attend to the work. One item only remains in an unsatisfactory state, viz. the interest on the proceeds of the old house, while they were in Mr. Hume's hands. I have written him for more definite information, but have not received any reply. The interest would amount to several hundred rupees. Perhaps it is included in some of the items in the acct., but as Dr. F. writes, "It does not appear." If there is any interest to be paid to the Mission & thence to the Board, I will credit it in account with the sum already paid me by Mr Hume.

Mrs. Gates & one of the children are suffering from sore eyes. Otherwise we are well. Mrs. Gates has not been able to open her eyes for the last three days, but the Dr. thinks she is

Rec'd Oct. 23

in a fair way to improve now.

The rain has been very light this year & I have been out with my tent in the villages some the last month — hope to go out again in a few days. The people are at leisure, & it is a good time to find them. Satan is busy, & my discouragements have been heavy lately. One teacher was dishonest, & had to be dismissed. Another was possibly in league with him, but the proof is not clear. He is not perfectly truthful I fear, & the latest story is that he goes fishing instead of having meeting, on Sundays. I should be glad to hear that this is false, but fear it is not. Charges are brought against one of the teachers whom we had entirely trusted — serious if proved true. There do not seem to be 7000 in this region who have not bowed to Baal. But a remnant will be saved. Remnants go for half price in the shops, & the world is fond of saying that what is left is not worth much, after a few have fallen in the church.

Is any further formal action by the Mission, in reference to the Bombay house necessary, or will it be sufficient if I credit to the Board the Rs. 4574.3-0 which has paid me as unexpended balance?

Yours sincerely, L. S. Gates.

Rec'd Sept. 27,

Mahableshwar; Feb. 16. 1885.

My dear Dr. Clark:

If you never have had letters from mission fields that were too long, you may think differently before you get through with this. I propose to send you a copy of my mission report for 1884, with a few changes to include some events of the last six weeks.

The year 1884 was one of progress and encouragement, yet it had its disappointments. Young Christians grew in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. A new district was opened, and there were converts where the truth had been preached but a few months. Persons who had showed no special interest were found to be near the kingdom, and fruit ripened where we had not consciously scattered any seed. But on the other hand, some who gave promise of becoming bright lights are still in their heathen darkness. One man confesses that he is obliged to steal sometimes, & hence cannot follow his brother into the church. An educated family, who have had a good position in their native village, seemed likely to come out on the Lord's side, but perhaps from becoming involved in a lawsuit their interest has seemed to die away.

The rain in some parts of my district was very light, and I was able to be out in tents a good deal of the time in August and Sept. It was the best time in the year to reach the people. They had but little work in the fields, and were ready to listen. Putting my tent in a central location, I usually went afoot and alone to talk with the people, in fields, gardens or near villages, wherever they could be found. My dinner often consisted of green corn roasted (a meal not to be despised) and many friends and acquaintances were made while eating it. The work was encouraging and soulinspiring. Very seldom other than willing listeners were found, and the few occasions when abuse, cowdung and stones were showered upon me only proved the need of more faithfulness. The people everywhere wanted to know when it would rain. Reading such passages as Jer. 14, Amos. 4:6–13 &c. opened the way for plain talk on our relations to God. The story of a single day's experience during this rainy season touring may not be uninteresting:-

"Taking an early breakfast, I started out with a Bible and tracts under my arm. My attention was soon attracted to a company of persons, mostly women, in a little _wada_ outside the town. As they were low caste people, I could go near without driving the women all away. A company of religious beggars had come, and were performing ceremonies in honor of their god Tukaram. (Tukaram was a historical person who lived about 250 years ago. bkt. It does not take long for a man to become a god here, as ~~seen is~~ was seen in the case of a crazy intemperate man who died about 20 miles from Sholapur ~~some~~ only three or four years ago).

¶ These religious beggars ~~They~~ had a light wooden box, about two feet square, covered with bright colored paper. It was ornamented with rudely carved little turrets, and in the centre on top a miniature spire of brass, on which was carved the name Tukaram. This box stood on the ground, the front was removed, a curtain was stretched across, and from the curtain string hung little ornaments of gilt, brass, tinsel and colored paper. The proprietor sat near by, busy with his worship. His face was covered with ashes, paint and dirt. He had on a pair of blue trousers, probably cast off by some railway police-man, a torn shirt, and strings of bells and beads about his waist, neck, hands and feet. He was muttering over some unintelligible phrases, while two drummers sitting near emphasized his words, and helped to interest the crowd.

¶ At times the curtain was raised and a wild looking figure could be seen inside, with hands and feet of tin. He had a sword in his right hand and on the sword were strung ornaments and flowers. Whenever the curtain was raised, the women who stood by bowed, and laid their little children down on the ground in front of the idol. Several women were bringing from their houses offerings of water, grain and money. The water was poured out before the idol. The money went into the proprietor's pocket. The grain was taken, a few kernels offered to the god, and the rest handed to a boy standing near, who put it in a bag. The proprietor then took a few ashes from a pile before the idol, put them in the basket in which the grain had been brought, and handed them back to the offerer. She rubbed some of the ashes on her forehead and went away blessed, as she thought.

¶ One woman had no money to bring, and she was told that the god was very angry with her. She said she could not help it; she had none money to give. I had been standing near by for some time, but now turning to the women, some of whom I knew, ~~and~~ I told them that I was astonished to see them doing this: that God was angry with idolaters, and had said that no idolater should enter heaven. God had given them their children, and they were insulting Him by their actions before that idol. I then told the proprietor that in place of the woman who had no money to give, I would give five rupees if the god would stretch out his hand and take it. "Oh!" said he, "the god does not want *your* money." The worship closed without a benediction. The proprietor did not seem vexed at all by my interruption. The idol was taken up and carried on, and I walked along with the owner, talking and reading from the Bible. He said he knew there was but one God, and that ~~that~~ the idol was no god, but he kept up this business to get a living.

I went on into the town and spoke to ~~a~~ those who gathered about the *chowdi*. As I was coming away, some men came along with a live snake which they had caught by slipping a string over his head. They said it was the dreadful cobra de capello. On being asked why they did not kill him, they replied that it would be a sin to do so, and they were not quite willing that *I* should commit that sin. I followed them out a little distance from the town, when they loosened ~~him~~ the reptile and directed his head toward a hole in the ground. But he had been so nearly strangled that he scarcely moved. Those who brought him stood aside. They had done their duty. He might live or he might not. It was public ground, and I had as good a right to act independently as they had, so with a sharp stone I put the snake beyond the power of hurting anyone. Then opening his mouth I showed them that he had no fangs, and hence was not poisonous. It was a *dhamin*, which resembles the cobra, but has no poison. The people do not easily distinguish between venomous snakes and others, but in a country where nearly twenty thousand persons die yearly from snake bites, it is safe to call all snakes enemies until they are proved otherwise. At last the people seemed glad that the reptile was out of the way, but that the sin of taking his life did not rest on them.

After dinner I went to a village three miles away where an ordinary Hindu audience was reached. A man who seemed a very attentive listener came afterwards to test my capacity to weep with those that weep. He had owned a good field, but was in danger of losing it. He had borrowed Rs. 150. some twelve years before, to enable him to dig a well. He had papers to show that he had paid back to the lender at different times Rs. 750. But the lender's arithmetic, as is often the case here, differed from that of the ~~farmer~~ borrower & the former claimed that Rs. 1000 were still due him. & he wanted to get the field into his possession. Two magistrates had refused to give him a claim to the field, but the third, who had just come into office had done so, on what seemed to be forged claims.

His story was supported by the town officers, & some of the older inhabitants of the town. He afterwards called a council for arbitration, consisting of those who knew the facts from the beginning, & they decided in his favor.

After this I went to see some persons who had expressed a desire to be baptized. They did not come, and when a Christian went to see what was the reason, he found that their relatives were holding them to keep them away from the ~~padre sahib~~ missionary. I sent word that until they were ready to forsake friends & all that they had, they were not worthy to become the disciples of him who had given his life for them. They could have got away & come if they had really wished to.

Returning I reached my tent about nine o'clock P. M.

The partial failure of the crops was a trial of the faith of the young disciples. The Hindus said, "You profess to have given up stealing. How will you get a living now without? We will see how well you live up to your professions."

As I was crossing the railway track one day, a company of pilgrims were seen sitting in the shade near by. After some conversation about religion they asked when the train would come. They had come from a distant village, & were waiting to see the train. I thought it would come about three o'clock. They asked, "Can we tell by the telegraph wires when it is three o'clock? Will they strike?"

An ignorant man while discoursing to me about our duties to God, said that a man should not sleep too long, for God would get tired of watching over him. It struck me that there might be a truth lying very near there. Are there not many individuals in Xian countries even who are sleeping too long? — enjoying the blessings of a kind & watchful Providence, but not awaking to see what their blessings are or making any returns for them. How many nations are sleeping too long! They need to be roused to act for themselves.

"Near the beginning of the year, the head man among the Mahars in the chief town of a kasaba of twenty-seven villages became a Xian. This raised ~~a~~, to the Mahars, a serious question, as to ~~of~~ who should be their judge to settle caste questions. A well to do Mahar, suffering a supposed grievance from some of the Xians, gave notice that he would give a dinner to all the Mahars in these 27 villages. They would appoint a new judge, excommunicate the Xians, and put a stop to further conversions. One of their plans was to invite the Xians to a trial of the respective value of the Hindu and Xian Scriptures. They proposed to take the two books & throw them both into the water. The one which sank would be declared false, & the other true. I asked which would be the more valuable, a book printed on gold leaves, or the *same* printed on wood: one would sink & the other swim. But why stop with a trial of the scriptures? why not test their *gods* in the same way? The Hindus might take one of their idols, & the Xians would take a donkey (one of the most despised of all animals). Throw them both into the water. If the idols would not bear comparison with a donkey, what were they good for? But some objected that the two were not comparable - one was a god the other was not. Well, then, take two eggs. We will throw them both into the water, & the Xian will take the one that sinks, & you can have the one that rises. Anyone knows that a bad egg will rise & a good one sink. At last another way of testing the two books was suggested, viz. the influence produced upon the lives & character of those who read & believed in them.

the Hindus seem [illegible]

5 "As for putting the Xians out of caste, it seemed like excommunicating a man from a crowd of drunkards who had previously left them in disgust, & would have no more to do with them. You say that when a man becomes a Xian he becomes defiled. Do you expel a man from your caste when he steals? No. When he lies? No. When he drinks? No. When he commits adultery? No. When he kills a man? No. But when he gives up all these bad things, lives an honest life, adopts the purest religion

the world ever saw, then you say he is defiled. You know that Xians do not allow a man in their church who does these things. Who is defiled? Have you not reason to be ashamed of your society? Besides you say that a man is defiled when he gives up his original religion & adopts another. God gave the Xian religion & the promise of Christ to your ~~first~~ ancestors. and you freely confess that your religion is not what it was in the beginning but has sadly degenerated. Then by your own testimony you, & not the Xians, are defiled. You seem very much like a herd of swine which have been wallowing in filth & dirt. They come in their filthy state to eat. A gentleman in clean clothing passes along near by, & they say, "Don't come near us; keep away; don't touch us, you are defiled." At last the [illegible] dinner was given up, & the prime mover has shown a disposition to be friendly toward the Xians."

[illegible] Native helpers

"During the year in my field outside of Sholapur fourteen adults, living in seven different villages, have been baptized. In six of these villages there were no Xians before, and it is only about three years since the gospel was preached in that region with any regularity. There are now inquirers in those & the surrounding villages. Within a radius of about eight miles there are now more than twenty-five adult Xians. They are talking, & very properly as it seems to me, about forming a church or churches. There are two important villages which are somewhat central, & it seems as though two churches would soon be needed. ¶ "Several of the xians, who were entirely ignorant of xianity three years ago have learned to read and are developing into efficient workers. Among them is the wife of a farmer who goes regularly & without pay to the surrounding villages with a Bible woman. The idea of her receiving pay was suggested by one who afterwards confessed lack of wisdom in this matter. But she said she had no need of pay. she had enough to live on, & she loved the work. When the Bible woman was sick for a time she expressed anxiety because the work was not going on. ¶ "Some men have learned to sing & play native instruments, and go about making known the truth as they find leisure from their work. Two men who have been friendly for some time have expressed a willingness to pay tithes help build a church, &c. but did not want to be baptized. But the latest news from them is that they think of being baptized, learning xian hymns, & going about at their own expense to help spread a knowledge of the truth. One man who first heard about xianity some two years ago, was baptized in June. His wife has scarcely spoken to him since, but he enjoys communion with our dear

He has made remarkable progress in the study of the Bible. He has read the N. Test. ~~all~~ through, some parts of it many times, & remembers what he reads. He has some questions to ask almost every time I see him." Once it was about the city spoken of in Rev. 17. at another time 1 Cor. 13. at another Jn. 14, at another Acts 15:20. &c why things strangled were forbidden to be eaten. When there seemed to be danger of suffering from the want of rain, he said, "Saheb, how is this? The Bible says in one place 'Take no thought for the morrow', and in another, 'He that provideth not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, ~~he~~ hath denied the faith." Wherever he goes, he carries his N. T. with him and makes known what he has learned in it.

"Think not that I have come to send peace on earth," was illustrated by an attempt to baptize a man at Chinchole in Sept. His name is Limbaji. He first heard of Xianity from one of our teachers, some eighteen months before. He was formerly a religious mendicant, wore long hair, and a string of beads about his neck peculiar to those who worship a certain god. After hearing the truth he cut off his hair, sent me his beads, and began to work for a living. I had seen him but twice, & then for a few moments each time, but he was very anxious to be baptized, and I went to the village for the purpose Sept 4.

His wife at once began to abuse me for going about to make trouble between man & wife; to which I replied that I had seen very little of her husband, and that he had decided to be a Xian before he ever saw me at all.

"People began to gather from the neighboring homes. I talked with them for more than an hour and tried to give them some idea of Xianity, for there had been very little preaching in that village. When Limbaji was asked if he wanted to be baptized & live a Xian life among his town's people, he said "Yes." After some further examination I called for some water, which his wife brought, supposing I wanted it to drink. But the people soon mistrusted what was to be done, and showed signs of displeasure. His wife threw herself down & beat her head on the hard earth, threatened to kill herself, or do other things nearly as bad. Those standing near caught & held her, but she beat her breast and screamed and bewailed this bitter end of her twelve years of married life. His mother also tried to interrupt the work for which I had come. Other women beat him & called him names for becoming a Mang (an outcast). His mother caught hold of the dish of water & tried to take it away. ¶ "I tried to persuade the people that their demonstrations were useless, that the man had fully determined to be a Xian, & had been one at heart for some time, that what I was trying to do would not change his character or conduct. They asked if I was going to baptize him against his will. I said "No". They said, "He does not want to be baptized now." Said I, "Ask him". They did, & his calm but decided answer was, "Yes". These questions to me & to him were repeated several times afterwards, with a hope that he would give a different answer, but the questioners were disappointed. He took his only child, which was to be baptized with him, and tried several times to come near me, but others stepped before him & kept him back. ¶" The patil & town clerk sent a man to bring us both before them, but I sent word that there was no necessity for that, (for I expected no help from them.) A high caste man was called who tried to persuade Limbaji to give up his purpose of becoming a Xian. His wife was trying every argument, & once I heard her tell him that if he would wait she would come with him. Long before this I had stepped back a little out of the crowd, & sat down quietly, only putting in a word when it seemed advisable. The dish of water stood by my side. The people had gathered in full force, bringing canes, sticks & such weapons as they could lay their hands on, evidently expecting a general row riot. After a time, putting my hand down by my side, I discovered that the water was gone, but I did not show that I missed it, although how to get more was not an easy question to answer. ¶ "But I had another plan in mind. It did not seem absolutely necessary that the baptism should take place then & there. If we insisted on it we should both be mobbed, in all probability. There was no one within about seven miles on whom I could rely for assistance, & it did not seem best to baptize the man & leave him there with people so much excited, although he seemed to have no fear.

"Finally I told the people that as they knew very little about Xianity, & were very much mistaken on many points, we would postpone the baptism. In the meantime they might talk with L. & persuade him to give up Xianity if they could. L. would also tell them more fully his reasons for becoming a Xian.

¶ "About ~~three~~ a week~~s~~ afterwards he tried to come to Sholapur, but his friends? followed him six or eight miles to the station, & prevented his taking the train. He ran on to the next station, & finally reached Sholapur. But I persuaded him that it was best for him to be baptized in his own village, & he returned. About three weeks afterwards, the native pastor accompanied me to the village. The people had become more reconciled to L's. purpose. The pastor gave them a good sermon, & L. was quietly baptized in his own house. His wife & mother came in soon after, gathered up their clothes & a few vessels, & made a great show about leaving him, promising never to return. Some of the neighbors said that L. would not be allowed to get water from the common well. About fifteen days afterwards I heard that L's. wife and mother had returned, and that he had not been prevented from getting water. Since then L. has been instrumental in leading a family in another village to accept xianity."

A teacher met a company of pilgrims on their way to Pandharpur to worship the god Vithoba. He spent an evening reading to them a little tract "Pandharpur & Vithoba". One man was convinced of his folly, twisted his ear to punish himself for his foolishness, & turned back, vowing never to go to P. again.

The village Schools under my care have not prospered as well as they did last year. One reason is that, owing to the lack of rain & consequent high price of grain, boys have been obliged to work. The Station school has improved, & the teachers have shown a consmendable zeal in their work. The Gov't grant for the year was about 50% more than last year, with nearly the same number of scholars

The garden work for the orphans & Station School boys has been carried on very satisfactorily. The products have paid for the work done, but we need more money to deepen the well. Fifty of the older school boys not orphans have entirely supported themselves during the year by working in the garden out of school hours.

Two new schools were opened during the year, both in Sholapur City. One in the large Mahar Wada & the other among the weavers. About the close of the year a girls school also was opened among the latter people, which is doing well. The want of a school for the Mahars has been felt for many years, and several attempts have been made to open one. But a few influential Hindus, zealous for the traditions of their fathers, have prevented it. I finally decided to try a school on our own ground, with which they could not interfere. The Municipality kindly gave land. Government was asked to give Rs. 300 - half the cost of the building, & this will be granted, I think. A subscription paper with plans & estimates was circulated among Hindu friends in the city. They gave nearly Rs. 70. But there was a good deal of discussion among them as to the propriety of their giving for a school where low caste children would attend. When the house was finished, & an attempt was made to open the school, in June, the scholars were not there. Some of those who have since begun to come, were looking round the corners of neighboring houses to see if anyone else would degrade himself enough to attend the padre's school. The teacher was not troubled with an over-crowded room for some days. He had plenty of time to meditate on the responsibilities of a teacher's position. When he went to see the parents & collect the scholars he was told that some had gone on a pilgrimage, & would attend when they returned. Others could not begin that day because it was not a propitious one, &c. &c. At last we sent a dozen of our orphan children there for a month. In the mean time others came in, & the numbers have been steadily increasing.

The teacher in the weaver's wada began under difficulties. He was encouraged by a prominent man who had known him from boyhood, but private teachers opposed. They would bring their schools & make the boys sit down in the road in front of our school, and make all the fun of us they could. They told the parents that we were simply trying to deceive them, as was evident-from the fact that we charged less fees than they did! The teacher was patient, & the parents were anxious to have a school in which the rod would be used less than in the private schools. Several times these private teachers came & drew boys out of our school & punished them for leaving their school. The parents were a little disturbed by the stories that we wished to teach nothing but Xianity. But a few of the more sensible ones said, "Keep a little quiet about Xianity until this storm blows over, & then go on as you like."

The orphan children are doing well. Five or six of the boys are ready to enter the Normal school, and will make efficient helpers. Three ~~have~~ united with the church during the year 1884, and three more in January. All have shown a great improvement in general conduct, and we feel that the Lord has blessed us in taking them. The youngest is a little girl about four years old—daughter of a Brahman woman who was in jail at Sholapur for sometime, under sentence of transportation for life for murder. Mrs. Harding visited the jail & became acquainted with this woman, who was quite willing we should have the girl.

Mr. Bruce will put in as much of the above into our Mission Report as he thinks best, & you may see it by & by, but I thought you might get a better idea of my work to see this report as a whole.

I am up here for a few days on account of Mrs. Gates health, but expect to go back soon.

I have been troubled the past year by charges, (lately proved to be false, by a Council) against one of my best teachers. The case ~~widened~~ strengthened factions in the church, & made trouble all round. His acquittal incidentally condemned another man not connected with our mission, who takes the opportunity, while Mr. Harding & I are both away, to bring a suit for defamation of character, & our Deacons will have to allow the whole disgusting matter to be raked up by Government, which is not very pleasant.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

Rec'd March 23

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Sholapur, India, June 22, 1885.

My dear Dr. Clark.

It seems but a short time since we came to India, and the thought of returning to America so soon is not a pleasant one, but it has been forced upon us lately, and my object in writing this letter is to ask permission of the Board to visit America with my family next year. The Mission has taken no formal action yet on this question, & it seems unnecessary to do so before October. I spoke to the Mission at our last meeting, and it is understood that the mission will favor our going next year, unless something happens before then to make it ~~desirable~~ seem best no Christians now.

The reasons for our going [illegible] you about a man lows:— (1) We have been in [illegible]nner and do all he ten years, and at a station [illegible] did not succeed, and warmer and more trying [illegible]missions ask to be other station in our mission. [illegible] it seems away during the hot seasons, but this has not been sufficient to keep us up in good working ord (2) Mrs. Gates has had some trying seasons of sickness which have told upon her health. Her teeth are so bad that she cannot take

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Since coming to India my father, my only [illegible]ther & two sist[illegible] have died. My father died

[illegible] a[illegible] my mother was very anxious

[illegible] home *this* year and help settle

[illegible]ange for the management of the

[illegible] seemed impossible for me to go

[illegible] My mother does not want to dis-

[illegible] of the farm until I go home.

If it seems best to the Board for us to go home next year, please let me know before October.

I wish to thank you for your letters of Feb. 7th, & Apr. 10th

Yours sincerely,

L. L. Gates.

Sholapur, India, Sept. 12, 1885.

My dear Dr Clark:

Your letter of July 31st was received by the last mail. We thank you for the prompt reply to ours with reference to returning to America.

The work in my district has been very encouraging lately. Inquirers who have been somewhat intimidated by the unfriendliness of native officers are now coming forward. Since Aug. 31st I have baptized sixteen adults and three children, in four different villages. In one of these places there were no Christians before. There are candidates for baptism in at least six other villages, in some of which there are no Christians now. A few months ago I wrote you about a man who attempted to get up a dinner and do all he could to hinder the work. He did not succeed, and now he and two of his seven wives ask to be baptized. I hope they are sincere, but it seems best to give them a few months' time to prove their sincerity. I have recently heard how he wrote to influential men last year to help him in his attempt to oppose the Christians. One of these men showed a letter to one of my teachers, and said he had replied that he would not give any assistance. Letters were sent to several villages where the people were friendly to us, saying, "We hear you are in the habit of eating with Christians, and associating with them in many ways, too familiarly." The people in one of these villages replied, "Yes we do these things, and you can do whatever you like about it." I was no less surprised than pleased at the boldness of the stand they took.

I have thought that a map or sketch of my field might help you to see what the possibilities are. Enclosed please find a rude attempt to trace a map, from one of the Government maps of the Sholapur District. My work in the district lies between the Sina & Bhima Rivers. Across the Bhima River to the West the S.P.G. Mission has worked some, & I do not propose to trouble them if they will confine themselves to the West bank of the river. They have had an agent at Pandharpur, but there is none there now. Thousands of pilgrims, from 50 to 500 miles distant, cross my field every year on their way to Pandharpur, & some of them have been influenced by our Christians to forsake the god Vithoba. I have underlined with red ink the names of the towns where there are Christians. I have a very small force of Native Agents for this large field — three teachers, & one Bible Woman. There are 68.000 inhabitants in the Madha Taluka alone, and 89 villages. You will see that my field includes a large territory besides the Madha Taluka. I might go on North & North East until I came to the field of Dr. Bissell of Ahmednagar, whose map appeared in the Herald a few months ago. In fact I have been to some large towns not represented here, between my field & Dr. Bi. & there were inquirers there some time ago. The G. I. P. Railway Company gives me a free pass for myself & one servant, on passenger or goods trains, & this enables me to visit these towns often, & I can go to any one of the places where there are Xians & back to Sholapur the same day. It would be impossible for me alone to look after this whole field if it were not so conveniently situated with reference to the railway. There are now forty-nine adult Christians in these country towns, and they need a native pastor or catechist very much. I think one or two churches will be formed there soon.

Besides this village work, there are four schools here in Sholapur under my care, which are doing very well. Quite a class — about six — boys will be prepared to enter the C. V. E. School this fall to prepare for teacher's work. Most of them are orphans who have been with us from the time of the famine.

I have had a series of sciopticon exhibitions in our Chapel lately - some for native women only. The audiences have been large, & have listened to the plain truths of the Gospel better than heretofore.

Rain which was very much needed has fallen within the last two days, & more will fall probably soon. This has relieved the anxiety of thousands of people who had begun to despair of a harvest this year.

Very sincerely yours.

L. S. Gates.

Rec'd Oct 19.

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Liverpool, England, Apr. 6. 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark:

Still they come - Dr. Bissell myself and family, also George Harding, from the Marathi field, Rev. T. S. Smith and family also Mr. Hitchcock from Jaffna. Rev. J. M. Goheen and family of the Presb. mission are with us. We left Bombay March 6th by the "Belgravia," Anchor Line, with passages engaged through to New York. We arrived here after a pleasant voyage on the 3d inst., and expect to sail for New York on the 14th in the "City of Rome." We are sorry to be detained here so long, but we were all convinced, after careful consideration, that this was our best way. At the advice of Messrs. Green & Whinray we went to the Shaftesbury Hotel for the Sabbath, and the next (Mon) morning went to look for lodgings. We are now in a private family where our expenses will be about one fourth of what the hotel charges - although the Shaftesbury seems a nice and reasonable hotel - and we are very nicely situated. We are all in comfortable health. Dr. Bissell has improved much on the voyage. We expect to go to Deerfield, Mass., and live with Dr. Hazen most of the time. My mother is now entirely alone at East Hartland, Conn., and is feeble. I hope to make some better arrangement for her-

soon.

I hoped to write you before leaving Sholapur giving some account of the work in the S. W. part of that district, where I have been working. "When I took charge of the district nine years ago there were two families in it that were called Christian, ~~though~~ and the hardly worthy the name. There were no Mission agents of any kind, but the Gospel had been preached in parts of the field. It was slow work for me to get hold of the people, and I often felt discouraged, but little by little the way opened to their hearts, and the interest seemed to steadily increase until it was hard to come away. There are now in the district between eighty-five and ninety Christians, who are ~~all~~ dear to me from the fact that I know them all personally. Having had no catechist or agent with me, except for a little while at a time, most of the work among the people has fallen as a pleasant duty to me. These Christians are living in different parts of the field but most of them near important villages where they can meet for worship. It was pleasant to go in company with fellow Christians from Sholapur in February and establish three churches, one at Angar, one at Madha and one at Shetphal. These churches are about twelve miles from each other and from thirty to forty miles from Sholapur, not far from the railway. Besides these In the vicinity of Karul there are eight or ten adult Christians and some inquirers. They are not near any church, and Karul is an important place. I hope a church may be established there before long. There is need of money to build houses for pastors and teachers, also churches, and I hope that if such a request comes to the Board from the Mission, it may be borne in mind that very few requests have come to the Board as yet for money to be spent in that field for buildings. —) The churches are not strong yet. There are about twenty adults connected with each, but there are inquirers who will probably come into them soon. A recent graduate from the ~~Nagar~~ Ahmednagar Theo. Sem. has begun work there, & promises well.

"Our work in Sholapur has also been encouraging. The grant for our Station School (from Govt.) was about a third more the last year than the year previous, with about the same number of scholars. Ten boys have gone to the Normal School from the Station School. Most of these are orphans who have been with us since the famine.
We could not leave the work there in better hands than Mr. Harding; but he will have all that he can do to look after the whole of the Sholapur field.
Very sincerely yours L. S. Gates.

Liverpool, Apr. 6, '86,

Rec'd Apr. 19.

Deerfield, Mass., Apr. 24th 1886.

Dear Dr. Clark:

I thank you for your letter of yesterday. We reached New York before noon on the 22nd and were glad to meet Dr. Hazen and Henry besides Mr. Arthur Bissell and others. I had written to Mr. Kinkaid, and he sent a man to help in getting our baggage off. Dr. Hazen and my family came on here the same day. I remained to bring some baggage that was needed at once, but reached Springfield early yesterday morning, and after visiting my mother and sister in West Springfield, came here last evening.

We expect to call Dr. Hazen's house home for the present at least. If I remember, our plans were briefly noted in a letter which I sent you from Liverpool. As soon as we are comfortably settled, which will be early next week probably, I shall be glad to go to Boston. Perhaps the early part of week after next will be the most convenient time for me to go, but will write you again before going, and will you please suggest a time most convenient for you, if you choose.

We had a very pleasant voyage, and were as comfortable as it seemed possible for a family with five children to be — especially when one of the parents is a poor sailor. Dr. Bissell improved much on the way, and will speak for himself.

Very truly yours,

L. S. Gates.

Deerfield, Apr. 24, 1886,
Rec'd Apr. 26.

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East Hartland, Conn.
May 20th, 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark:

Yesterday's mail brought a letter from Mr. Hume, enclosing yours to him of the 14th inst; and also one from Mr. Atkinson. Mr. Hume wished me to write to you about Mr. Atkinson's returning to India.

Mr. Atkinson was in Bombay on our arrival in India in Dec. 1875, and all the acquaintance I had with him was during the few weeks we were there — three or four. I heard him preach only once, and not having acquired the language myself, I could not judge accurately about his use of it. But I was mortified that a missionary who had been in India as long as

he had should make such X
bad work of reading the Bible as he seemed to, and I made a resolve that I would do better than that.

As to other qualifications I can not say much. He made some mistakes in the Sholapur field, and did some good there. I am not sure that he made more mistakes than other young missionaries — the undersigned, for instance — have made.

Finally, do not make much of my opinion in this matter. I would much rather be guided myself by the opinion of Dr. Bissell and other older men in the mission who were associated with him on the ground and were competent to judge of his work. I have always heard of him as a serious and ~~honest~~ earnest man.

The letter of Mr. Atkinson enclosed.

Please excuse my writing on this paper. I have no other with me.

Yours sincerely

L. S. Gates.

Deerfield, Mass May 29, 1886.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.

Dear Bro.

I wish we could get on without so much to do with money, but there seems little prospect of it; and we shall be obliged to look about for some before long, unless our hungry mouths can be stopped.

When I was in Boston I drew ~~draw~~ nothing from Mr. Ward except enough to settle up my account of expenses from Bombay to Deerfield.

Is it proper for me to charge my expenses to Boston and back this month to the Board?

Shall I charge to the Board my travelling expenses when I go to speak on missions in the churches when I am called?

Nothing definite was said in Boston about my allowance. You asked me to write you about it. I think seventy-five dollars a month will be enough for us. If Dr. Hagen does not remain here, or if we do not remain with him, we may need more. We cannot tell where we shall be all the time we are at home, but expect to remain here.

Mrs. Gates and I were glad to be able to attend the ordination of Mr. Fairbank on the 27th.

I wish we had a dozen more such men for the Marathi field.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

Deerfield, May 27, 1886.

Rec'd June 1.

D.

East Hartland, Conn., June 19th 1886.

Dear Dr. Clark:

Your letter of the 5th inst. reached me at Westfield a few days ago. I thank the Prudential Committee for voting us $75. per month, and I thank you for your kind reference to our possible needs. Yes, Mrs Gates and I both need to have dentistry done. As to traveling— I should like to go to the Meeting of the Board at Des Moines and visit a number of relatives along the way. I have thought some of spending the winter in Washington, D.C. My throat and lungs are sensitive, and for this reason friends in the Marathi Mission thought it might be best for me to go south during the winter: but I hope this will not be necessary. I have not decided about going to Thousand Islands in August. If I go to all these places, and become a vagabond or ministerial tramp, and have a big dentistry bill to pay, $75. may not be enough for me. However I thought it best at present to ask for enough to cover ordinary and probable rather than all possible expenses.

As to charging my expenses to and from churches where I am asked to speak you write:— "Whenever you go by direction of the home Secretary, Dr. Alden, you will charge your expenses." My only question is, what constitutes direction of the home Secretary? For instance, when I was in Boston Dr. Alden asked me if I was willing to go to churches in the vicinity of Deerfield, saying that he had had correspondence with some of them, and would refer them to me. Several pastors have written or spoken to me about visiting their churches, some of whom have mentioned corresponding with Dr. Alden, and some have not. Should I get definite instructions from Dr. A. before visiting any church?

In cases when Mrs. Gates goes to speak to the ladies, is it proper for her to charge her expenses to the Board?

As to our health — Mrs. Gates is pretty well, but a little mental exertion often gives her a headache. My eyes troubled me for several months before leaving India, and for a time after coming home they seemed no better. They are better now, and an occulist who examined them recently said that they would be ~~better~~ well probably after a residence of a few months in this country. Aside from this and sensitive lungs and throat, I am well, so far as I know. The children are all very well.

I suppose my accounts should go directly to

Mr Ward, and remittances be asked from him, or do my accounts of traveling &c. to the churches go to Dr. Alden?

Please excuse me for asking so many questions.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

P.S. My address for a few weeks now will be East Hartland, Conn. — Was not Bro. Hume a little too fast at Andover? L.S.G.

Rev. L. S. [illegible]ates,

East Hartland, Conn., June 19, /86,

Rec'd June 21.

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Deerfield, Mass. Sept. 13, 1886.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.

Boston, Mass.

Dear Bro:

Dr. Bissell has sent me a copy his letter to you dated the 7th inst. with reference to Rev. R. A. Hume's returning to the Marathi field. He thinks it would be well for me to write to you and say whether I agree with what he has written or not.

I fully agree with what Dr. Bissell has written. Dr. Bissell has been at the same station with Bro. Hume, and knows more about his work than I do, but so far as I know, Bro Hume has been regarded by his missionary brethren, by earnest Christian Englishmen and by the native brethren in India as almost a perfect model of a missionary. I think he has few equals on missionary ground, and I sincerely hope he will be allowed to return to his work whenever he is ready to do so.

Yours sincerely

L. S. Gates.

Conn

P.S. I have not written this because I sympathize with any views which Mr. Hume has expresse on the subject of the New Theology. I am very sorry he said what he did at Andover, and do not think he fairly represented the feelings of the heathen with reference to the state of their ancestors. If he did, the heathen at Ahmadnagar are different from those whom I have met at Sholapur. But I do not wish to take sides in this discussion. So far as I am concerned, the reasons for changing the basis of missionary operations are not satisfactory. But I do not think Bro. Hume will put forward any dangerous views in his work either in the Seminary at Ahmadnagar, or in his evangelistic work; and I hope the discussion which is going on about Andover and Boston will not force its way too much into missionary circles, and prevent a more good men returning. We are too busy. L.S.G.

Rev. L. S. Gates.

Deerfield Sept 13, '86.

Rec'd Sept 14.

S. C. —

Rec. Dec. 1886
Ans. Do.
Mahrathi

Deerfield, Mass., Dec. 17, 1886.

Rev. E. K. Alden, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Before coming from India I secured a number of photographs, some of them entirely new, illustrating scenery and buildings to some extent, but more especially dress, customs, religion &c. of the Hindus. I have had these put on slides for a sciopticon, have purchased the lime light sciopticon, and propose to give exhibitions as I can, and help to stir up an interest in mission work. After doing so much without asking your advice (because I did not suppose you would object) I want to ask if you approve of the plan, and especially of the plan for raising money. In the first place, I want to pay expenses; then my purpose is to give the proceeds to the Treasurer of the Board. It will not be well for me to go to churches and say this if you do not approve. I have been accustomed to the use of sciopticon, and where I have been to speak in the churches pastors tell me that there is nothing that will interest people more than this. I have managed the oil lantern with no assistant and found it easy. I think there will be no use in having an assistant go with me. My apparatus is not as cumbersome as Mr. Leach's, and can all be put into a small trunk.

Hence my expenses will not be large. Several pastors have volunteered to aid me all they can in this matter. I think it is better for my health to do this than to stay indoors & study.

We all plan to go to Washington about Feb. 1st and be there three months. Possibly you can help me in securing opportunities to speak Sabbaths, and give lectures with the sciopticon week day evenings. I have enjoyed going to the churches, where I have spoken, very much. My absence in Vermont, and in Conn. in the summer, and at the West in Sept. and Oct. has not given me a chance to do as much in this vicinity as I hoped. I have spoken nearly every Sunday since I came home and generally two and three times, and it does me good.

I wrote Miss Stanwood for some slides but have not heard from her, she may be away from Boston. I would like to have them for exhibitions next week if possible. Some of those at the Rooms would supplement mine. Or if they cannot be obtained, I would like a list of them so that I can order new ones made.

We came to this county to get cold and not colds. We are having both to our hearts content.

Yours sincerely,

L. S. Gates.

West Springfield, Mass. Jan. 6. 1887.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston.

Dear Dr. Clark.

Your letter of the 27th ult. was duly received, also the printed letter therein referred to. I have arranged with Mr. Root for the 16th inst.

As to our plans for the future;– Mrs. Gates and I are agreed that we shall be ready to go back to India whenever it seems best for us to do so. It was thought by some members of our mission that we ought to be in this country two winters, and Dr. Hazen has said so. But I am not sure about that. I shall be glad to get back to the work, and there is need of workers in our field, but should prefer not to say definitely quite yet when we shall be ready to go. We have had our dentistry done, or most of it. We are all pretty well. I thank you for thoughtfulness in regard to our allowance. It has met our necessities very comfortably so far. We expect to be in Washington, D.C. with my wife's brother for three months after the 1st prox. Henry says it is as cheap living there as here.

Very sincerely yours

L. S. Gates.

We return to Deerfield tomorrow.

Rev. L. S. Gates.

West Springfield, Jan. 6.

Rec'd Jan. 8, '87.

Deerfield, Mass. Jan. 13. 1887

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Bro.

Your letter of the 8th indicates that you did not understand my letter just as I intended concerning our return to India. You write as though you thought we could probably return next autumn, and as though my letter indicated that we could not. I did not so intend to be understood. I have generally, when asked, said that we should probably return this year, (excepting all possible developments of new heresies). I think it likely that we may be ready to go next autumn, and all that I meant in my letter was that I did not feel like making a definite and positive promise now to go then.

I am glad you are able to be in Boston again. We all enjoyed the printed letter which you sent, and I am sure it will be gladly received by many missionaries.

Mrs. Gates is in New Haven, or she would unite with me in kind regards. We are all well.

Very sincerely yours

L. S. Gates.

(over)

P.S. Private.

In regard to what I said about Mr. W. I very much prefer to write nothing, but will talk with you sometime if it is best. I left in India a written statement (at the request of others) of some things which I was called upon to witness. They may never become public, and I hope there will be no necessity for such action. Some of the older missionaries thought that some mission action was necessary, others not. If similar things should occur again you would probably hear of them through the mission.

L.S.G.

Deerfield, Jan. 13, 1887.
Rec'd Jan. 14.

Somers, Conn. April 21. 1887.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

While at South Hadley last Sunday Miss Hattie Bruce, a daughter of Rev. H. J. Bruce of the Marathi Mission, spoke rather freely about mission work. Dr. Judson Smith had been at So. Hadley not long before, and he said that three young ladies were wanted in India. Miss Bruce wanted to see him and ask if any were needed in the Marathi Mission. She also asked if I thought that the Marathi Mission wanted a young lady at Satara. I did not say much about the needs in our mission, except in a general way. Mr. Bruce has been opposed to young ladies going out to our mission, rather more than some others, and he might not wish to have his daughter go. I ~~said~~ did not say anything to Miss Bruce about writing to you, & had no idea then of doing so. You can use your own judgement about taking any notice of this letter. If you do, it may be well to write to Mr. Bruce first.

Very sincerely yours,
L. S. Gates.

We are here writing for a few days,— expect to go to Deerfield soon.

Rev. L. S. Gates.
Deerfield, Jan. 13, 1887

Somers, Conn., Apr. 21, /87,

Rec'd Apr. 25.

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Rev. L. S. Gates,
Somers Conn. Apr 29

Somers, Conn. April 29. 1887.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 25th inst. reached me here today. About our return to India — we are laying plans for returning in the Autumn if it then seems advisable, but Mrs. Gates' condition is such that we are not able to say now whether we can go then or not.

Mr. Harding has written very encouraging letters lately about the work in the Sholapur district. He says that the baptisms in the mission will probably be ~~greater~~ more in number this year than ever before. He mentions a number of cases which seemed very hopeful — some of them persons who have been not far from the Kingdom, apparently, for some time. Several of them are persons of high caste and good education. One is ~~the~~ *patil* (chief man) in a village, who seemed ready for baptism before I came away, but became involved in a lawsuit and lost interest. He knew Father Hazen, and when I first went touring in his district he was ready to *talk*, but saw a great many objections. He had declared himself a Christian before I came away. He has now been baptized. He has two very bright boys who will probably follow him. Some others who seemed to be among the faithful have not been very satisfactory. I shall be glad to go back then as soon as I can.

Yours sincerely,

L. S. Gates.

Rev. L. S. Gates,
Somers, Conn. Apr. 27, /87,
Rec'd May 2.

✓

S. S. "Circassia", Near Glasgow,
Dec. 7th 1887.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston, Mass, U.S.A.

Dear Bro. I received two letters from you just before leaving America, the last stating that the usual amount, $325. had been voted us for refit. I fully approve of all that you wrote in the other letter about our mission ~~work~~ agents. I expect to enjoy the continuance of work in the Sholapur field, and, from letters received from the three churches recently formed there, the prospect is good for growth in the right direction. I thank you for both of your letters.

We have had a rough sea most of the way, and all of us have suffered from seasickness. I feel quite *emptied of self*, but not in a very *spiritual* sense. I am not as badly off as an American who recently went over. It is said that he threw up everything except his engagements. Mrs. Gates is never really seasick, but has suffered from headache, want of sleep & appetite.

A letter put on board at Moville last night, from Bywater & Co. says that the "Asia", in which we were to go to Bombay, has been replaced by the S.S. "Hispania" to sail from Liverpool on the 13th inst.

Yours sincerely, L. S. Gates.

Rev. L. S. Gates

Mahratta

Dec 3. 1889

Bombay, Jan. 16. 1888.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston, Mass. U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Clark:

It gives me pleasure to report from India once more. We are all thankful that we have been preserved and are as comfortable as we are. The voyage has been a stormy one nearly all of the way from New York. If I had anticipated such a time I should not have thought of starting from America before spring. Mrs. Gates was well but not strong when we started. The care of the children has fallen mostly on her, for the rough weather did not cause seasickness with her as it did with me. There were times when she felt it doubtful whether she should live to see Bombay. The babe suffered in consequence. We had only about three days of quiet sailing after leaving New York until we passed Aden. I have eaten scarcely anything on the way, & am not in good working condition. There was a cyclone here some days ago, & the winds from here to England seem to have been disturbed. Three times on the way we were obliged to take shelter in harbors from the storms — storms of *wind* not rain.

But it is surprising how soon we forget such things after they are past. The sea seemed to become calm in answer to prayer several times.

The missionaries here are apparently in good health. Mr. Hume's children are looking much better than they were when we went home. The young ladies, Miss Leyman & Miss Millard, are working very hard apparently — Mr. Hume thinks too hard — and are getting the language well.

Our goods, sent from Boston Nov. 10th, have not arrived. We hear that they were kept in England waiting for other goods that were to be sent ~~from~~ Boston. We can get on however for a few days without them. They left England about two weeks ago.

We have attended evangelistic services here held by two English gentlemen. One was in Gov't employ when we were here before — a layman. They have done great good here and in other cities in India. They are about leaving now for Ceylon.

Mrs. Gates unites with me in kindest regards to yourself and family.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

P. S. We were very much helped in Liverpool by Mr. Howard, agent of Bywater Tanqueray & Co. I would advise all missionaries to go to him — especially *young* missionaries. He will meet them, take them to a hotel & advise about purchases. Missionaries will save time, trouble & money by referring to him. L. S. G.

Rev. L. S. Gates,
Bombay, Jan. 16, 1888,
Rec'd Feb. 28.

Sholapur, India, March 15, 1888.

Rev N. G. Clark, D.D.

Dear Brother:

Since arriving in Sholapur I have received two letters from you, dated Jan. 19th and Feb. 11th. I will reply to the former at a later date. The sums which you report for our schools and orphanage have been credited in Mr. Ward's letters. They will be used exactly in the line suggested in your letter of January 19th.

As to my impressions of the work at Sholapur on returning to it:— There has been on the whole a very steady and healthy growth. The number of baptized persons in the Mission in 1887, as you have doubtless seen from the Report, was larger by thirty than in any previous year. Progress in several lines is gratifying. (1) Some promising persons who seemed to stand on the threshold have come into the church and are doing well. (2) There has been growth in spiritual life in the churches, and a greater willingness to work without compensation. (3) Several young members of the church have gone into business, which helps to put the church in better position with reference to independence and self support.

(4) An interest in education has developed. In a new district it is difficult to make the people see the need of more education than their fathers had. Hitherto we have been obliged to look to the older stations for agents to carry on the work. There is now a larger number than ever before of interesting scholars who give promise of usefulness in this direction. Besides our orphans, scholars are coming in from the outlying districts. Reports that reach the villages through these children produce favorable impressions

The whole field is before us here. Difficulties arising from contest with other missions are not felt here at Sholapur. I have had invitations to open work in many new places since my return. This field is full of promise if we have the support which we need.

Mr. Harding has worked hard but seems very well. I have just been with him on a long and hot journey to ordain a pastor of the church in Watwad.

We have all been well until recently. Mrs. Gates and two of the children are not well now. Their spirits fall as the thermometer rises. It has stood between 90° and 95° lately in the house. We may go to the hills soon

Very sincerely yours, L. S. Gates.

Sholapur, Mch. 15-1888.
Rec'd April 16

Panchgani, India, April 30. 1888.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D. D.
Boston, Mass. U. S. A.

Dear Dr. Clark:

Some of your recent letters to our mission — particularly one to me of Jan. 19th and one to Dr. Bissell of March 1st — are in a line with thoughts which I have had for some time. I wrote you a few weeks ago that I would reply to your letter of Jan. 19th at another time.

It is my impression that more effort should be made by our mission to extend evangelistic work in country villages than has lately been made. I understand that the object of our mission should be, by the help of God, to convert men, help them to develop into sound, strong Christians and unite in active, independent churches. If so the question comes before us constantly, but with special emphasis at the time of making out estimates for the work during our May meeting: — Where can we use the $35.000 ± allowed by the Prudential Committee so as to make it go the farthest in promoting this object? Judging from the past history of mission work in India, and also from present indications, it seems to me that the rural districts afford a more inviting field for enlargement than the cities.

The various missionary societies that are working in India have been attracted to the large cities. Consequently the cities are better supplied with missionaries than any other part of the country. According to the "Indian Missionary Directory" of 1886, Bombay has 24 Protestant missionaries of different denominations, or one for every 32.000 inhabitants. (I am told that the number of missionaries now in Bombay is greater than this, and the Secretary of the Bible Society gives it as one in 30.000) This number is not large however as compared with the other Presidency cities. The whole of the Sholapur Collectorate (or state), with a population larger than that of Bombay city, has two missionaries. Satara, with about the same population has only one missionary. Ahmadnagar Collectorate, with a population equal to that of Bombay, is comparatively well supplied - having, of our mission and the S.P.G., nine missionaries, or one for 86.000 inhabitants. Taking the three Presidency cities, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, and we find one missionary for every 21.000 inhabitants; while for the rest of India there is one for 359.000. The proportion of single ladies in these cities is still greater, as compared with the rest of the country - being one to 32.500 in the former and one to 788.000 in the latter.

In our mission the educational institutions where our mission agents are mostly trained are now, and probably will be for a long time, in the Deccan. But more than half of our mission property is in Bombay. We have recently reduced our property in Bombay Rs. 30.000 by the sale of the old Press, and we have added to our property in the Deccan about Rs 25.000 by enlarging the High School at Ahmednagar. But the figures (according to the inventory of our mission property) are now Rs. 108.000 in Bombay and Rs. 90.000 in all the stations in the Deccan.

At present where are the yearly appropriations for our mission spent? Our estimates for Bombay for 1888, (not including allowances for the young ladies who have come recently, and not including Rs. 2400 for Marathi Editor and publications), are Rs. 17.333, or an average of Rs. 183 for each of the 95 church members who are there. For the Deccan districts we have Rs. 72.464, or Rs. 41½ for each of the 1745 church members; or about four and a half times as much for each church member in Bombay as in the Deccan. It would seem different if the work in Bombay were new, but it is the oldest church in our mission.

Considering that the number of missionaries in the three cities referred to is ten times as large as that in the rest of the country, and considering that the money for mission work is largely spent in the cities it would seem that we ought to expect better results in the cities than we actually find when we look at the facts. I think that our mission work in Bombay compares favorably with that of other missions, but it is slow and hard as compared with the work in the country.

I have already indicated the number of Christians in Bombay, in our mission, as compared with the Deccan. Work was carried on for eighteen years in Bombay before work in ~~Ahmadnagar~~ the Deccan was begun. But from what field do we find that the ~~Christians~~ of our mission today come? They are mostly from the Deccan. The population of the Ahmadnagar Collectorate, as I have said, is about the same as that of Bombay. We have 1292 church members in the Ahmadnagar Collectorate in our mission alone. There are 95 in the Bombay church, and the pastor tells me that about one third of these have gone down there from the Ahmadnagar district. It is true we have generally had four missionaries in Ahmadnagar and only two in Bombay. The work in the Sholapur Collectorate was begun 30 years after that at Ahmadnagar, and 48 years after that at Bombay. Sholapur Collectorate has a population a little larger than that of Bombay city. One missionary has been there a part of the time, two a part of the time, and sometimes no missionary has been there. The church members there now are 257.

The question may arise - Has not Bombay sent off converts to carry on the work in the Deccan? No. The tendency has been the other way, as I have partly shown above. Some of our older missionaries have said that we cannot expect Christians trained in Bombay to go up country to work to any great extent. Who are the members of the Bombay church at present? They are largely the cream of our Deccan churches. Of those on the roll now, one half, including the pastor's family, the late pastor, Vishnupant's family, the present Marathi editor of the Dnyanodaya, the family of the late editor, and most of the prominent men in the church are from the Deccan.

So with many of the city churches in the Deccan - they are made up largely of converts from the surrounding villages. Since I have been connected with the mission I have heard, from nearly all of our Deccan districts, regrets expressed that pupils and others were induced to go to Bombay to the disadvantage of our Deccan work.

Rev. E. A. Lawrence, whose letter on "Missionary Problems in India" you have probably seen, says (Andover Review, Sept. 1887) "It is difficult and painful to express my disappointment with most features of mission operations in the Presidency cities of India." Yet he probably had no idea how largely these city churches are made up of converts from the rural districts. He speaks very highly of our church in Bombay, as well he may. I do not wish to speak disparagingly of the work there, and hope you will not understand me so. I am comparing results there with results in the Deccan.

Some say that the Christians from the villages are low caste and not worth as much as those from the cities. But the converts from the villages are not all from the low castes. Besides, many of the Christians who today are occupying prominent positions are these same low caste Christians from the villages. The pastor of the Bombay church is one — a very able preacher, pastor and writer. The boy at the head of the college class in the Ahmadnagar College is another. The boy who stood the highest in the Government general examination for all castes except the Brahmans in the Ahmadnagar Collectorate is another. In the High School at Ahmadnagar, where the low caste Christians had to compete with Brahmans, at one time there were about one hundred boys. Only twelve of these were Christians, yet at the head of three out of the five classes stood a ~~one~~ Christian boy who came from the low castes. Scores of ~~this~~ such instances might be quoted. Rev. R. V. Modak, a Brahman convert, who after more than forty years of service in our mission, recently passed away, wrote:— "I believe that if there had been no special caste difficulties, the number of high caste Christians would today have exceeded the number of low castes in the church. x x x But I do not believe that it would have resulted in the real extension of the Kingdom of Christ; or that it would have promoted the real welfare of this country."

The Church mission has been very successful in the Tinnevelly district in So. India. Rev. Mr. Lash, a prominent missionary who was there for some time told me, "Our most promising work is in the villages. We have scarcely touched the large cities." Rev. B. H. Badley, D. D., of the Amer. Meth. Mission, Lucknow, author of the Indian Missionary Directory, although in charge of a comparatively prosperous city church writes, "Most of our cities are very hard fields. The rural districts certainly yield the largest returns. x x If I were opening new work I should turn to the villages. x x x I think there is greater need of mission work in the rural districts than in the cities." A large majority of the missionaries are in the cities, but Mr. Badley says that probably three fourths of the Christians in India are from the small villages.

My work in the Sholapur Western field has been mostly evangelistic. But during the first few years after we came to India the famine rendered all mission a little abnormal. Many villages were deserted. Then from '80 to '82 Mr. Harding was at home, and just then the Sholapur church was left without a pastor. During that time I was confined to the station a good deal, ~~of the time~~ so that but little was done in the villages until '83. When I began there were no teachers or mission agents of any kind in the district, and only two Christian families. When I went to America in March 1886. there had been seventy adult baptisms in the outlying districts, not including orphans and others who had become Christians at Sholapur. A few schools had been opened, and most of the Christians were united in three churches early in 1886. Up to that time scarcely anything had been spent from the funds of the Board for these people, except my own expenses. But it seemed necessary to have buildings in which the churches could meet, and for schools. The need seemed so great that Mr. Harding said the Board would certainly give a grant if the facts were known. On going home I left money received from the sale of furniture &c. to begin the work. The mission that year asked a grant of Rs. 700 from the Board, but it was refused. This did not look very promising for the development of evangelistic work, and was very discouraging to me. Fortunately I was able to raise some money in America for this object. Similar discouragements have come to other rural fields in our mission since I have been here.

In this district we do not ask large grants at a time for great institutions with high sounding names. If we did the churches at home would perhaps respond more readily. We expect the work to go on steadily enlarging, and as opportunities are afforded we want to open small schools and form centres of Christian influence. Does the Board expect this and intend to provide for it?

Reference is made in your letter, in the Herald and in other publications to a remarkable opening at Parel in Bombay. There has been a school in that place under Christian influences most of the time for the last fifteen years, and from what I saw and heard of that work, it seems to me that there ~~is~~ are at least a score of places in my field where the call is as urgent, and where the prospects are better for immediate results than in Parel. In one prominent taluka (county) town I have wanted to open work for the last ten years. There were inquirers in the place before that time. The people now are so urgent that they say if I cannot furnish a mission agent they must look for one from elsewhere. In Sholapur city about three years ago, at the invitation of some of the leading families, a school was opened among high caste people. It is taught by low caste, but very efficient, Christian teachers, has been steadily growing, until now there are nearly one hundred boys, many of whom attend our church prayermeetings regularly. In many cases the parents have urged us to visit them in their homes.

Now I do not wish to be understood as opposing this or any other Christian work in Bombay. Push it forward as fast as possible. But comparatively speaking I approve of enlargement in the Deccan still more, and believe it be more promising. If enlargement in Bombay means curtailment in the Deccan, I cannot approve of it, as things appear to me now. I may be wrong, but I have not consciously manipulated facts to suit my theories, and if I am mistaken it will give me pleasure to be corrected. The question of enlarging the Bombay work will probably come before our mission at the approaching May meeting. Speaking generally, I approve of it and can vote for it, although voting for it now will necessitate voting increased yearly appropriations to continue and support it. If I felt that this would necessitate the taking of so much from the Deccan work in years to come I should oppose it.

A word as to the reference in your letter of Jan. 19th to the the use of a contribution from Winsted, Conn. and other similar donations. In the outlying districts both in my field and in Mr. Harding's there are Christian children who ought to be educated, and whom we shall need in the future for carrying on the work. We have some of them in our Sholapur station school. I shall use the money from Winsted for them. As far as I can secure the means I hope to start new schools with the hope that they will develop into churches. There are at least twenty villages in my district now where the people have asked to have schools and where we ought to supply them. Aside from the three churches to which I have referred, there are two prominent places where there are a few Christians and more inquirers, and the prospect is that churches will be formed there before very long. But at present there are no schools, and no buildings for schools or for meetings.

I hope that the plan which you propose of appealing to the Y. P. S. C. E., or some other wise plan for extending our evangelistic work, will be carried out.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

Rev. L. S. Gates,
Panchgani, Apr. 30, 1888,
Rec'd June 2.

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Sholapur, India, July 9. 1888.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Clark:

I thank you for your letter of June 4th received by the last mail.

With reference to the subject of my letter of Apr. 30th I will say that when I wrote it I did not think the question would be so fully discussed in our May meeting. You have already received the majority and minority reports on that question, and I need not prolong the discussion. I would like however to say that the points which you make in your letter of June 4th were, I think, fully appreciated by me, and taken for granted, when I wrote Apr. 30th. viz. that the expense of work in Bombay is necessarily much heavier than up country, and we must continue the Bombay work. I believe that we must "sow beside all waters." I have never had the feeling that the work in Bombay should be given up. The points which I intended to make were (1) that the relative cost of city and country work here is very large compared with that of home, and (2) that in considering questions of enlargement we should follow the indications given

Rev. L. S. Gates.

by our Master in the past as to where we can expect his blessings in the greatest degree.

You mention the fact that the early disciples made their headquarters at city centers as worthy of consideration. I also think so, but are not the following facts also worthy of consideration? (1) There seemed to be special reasons why the disciples began in cities, one was that they found there Jewish communities and synagogues which formed favorable starting points. They had no caste feeling to meet, which here is far stronger in cities than in the country. But when the class which they hoped to reach refused to hear they were not slow in saying "Lo we turn to the Gentiles." (2) Can we not learn something from John the Baptist and from Christ as well as from the disciples. They found reasons for spending more time & strength in the country than in the large cities. I think that instead of blindly following always the example of either we can learn from both. I think that we may also learn something from the history of the development of the Christian church in India, as well as from the same in other countries.

Inquiries have sometimes been made in

letters from home why there are not great movements among the people in this mission as well as in missions in Northern and Eastern India. I have no doubt that the great results in those places are owing largely to the fact that the people were better prepared to receive the Gospel, and that God had a purpose in calling them before he did the higher castes. I also think that the results in our mission would have been greater if we had spent money & strength where there was a prospect of immediate results. Witness the work among the Karens in Burmah, and among the aboriginal tribes in Hindustan. It seems to be possible to cast pearls before swine here in India. Paul was warned to get out of Jerusalem because the people were not ready to receive his testimony, & he had great success elsewhere. A glance at work in the Watway church shows that the best way to reach the higher classes maybe through the low castes. I think, (and others agree with me) that we have done more then for the high castes by working where the Spirit led the way among the lowest castes, than we could have done by working directly for the highest castes. Bombay would seem to be the place to reach the high castes, but we have more high caste converts in our Sholapur church than in the Bombay church.

As to the cost of opening mission schools at new points:- It is hard to fix on any definite sum because circumstances vary ~~so~~ much in different places. $50. a year is sufficient for a teacher's salary and rent when a house can be hired. In two places in my district where churches were formed houses were rented at first, and the whole cost of the work in each place until the church was formed, including teacher's salary, was not $50. a year. In the 3d place no house could be hired, and I bought one in a good ~~place~~ locality for $15. I had to rebuild it & put up a school house soon after and the average yearly cost until the church was formed was about $75. I am hoping to open a school now soon in a new place where it seems necessary to build a house which will cost $150. to $200. On an average perhaps $75. is not too much to ask yearly for the first five years for both teacher and building.

Dr Bissell has written you fully on this subject I believe, and he has had more experience than I have in this matter.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

Rev. L. S. Gates.
Sholapur, July 9, '88.
Rec'd Aug. 8

Sholapur, India, Aug. 20, 1888.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston. Mass. U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Clark:

Your letter of June 23d has lain unanswered too long. I was at Satara for some days, and returned to go out for a tour with evangelists through my district. You have probably heard of Mr. Sibley's death. I am very glad Mrs. Sibley feels like holding on there. She is an able woman, and has a good knowledge of the field and the agents. She has been wonderfully sustained in her trials. During all the time that I was there, although she was well aware that Mr. S. might pass away at any time, yet she talked about him as cheerfully as though he were in full health, and I saw no sign of depression or even of a sad countenance. Dr. & Mrs. Bissell went there when I came away, and on leaving I remarked to Mrs. Sibley that I felt glad she was so well sustained. She remarked that it was not wonderful, God was simply fulfilling his promises in answer to the prayers of his people. She had almost the entire care of him day & night for four months, besides looking after the work of the agents

Rev L S Gates

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in the field.

You ask for my thoughts on the work in the Satara field as compared with Sholapur.

It is difficult for me to say much on this matter, for I have never been in Satara but a few hours at a time until recently, and have not been in the district there enough to form an opinion of much value.

I am satisfied that there is a difference in the fields. The Brahman power is not felt as much in this region as in Satara. Mr. Bruce has had so much literary work at times that he could not spend much time in the villages. If he could have spent more time in evangelistic work, I have no doubt the condition of the field would have been different now from what it is. Judging from observations in my own field, I think a missionary can do great good in opening up hostile places, and in drawing audiences where the native agents often fail. On the other hand agents can do some things better than we can. Hence it seems to me very desirable in carrying on this evangelistic work to have the missionary and native agents working together. Each supplements the other.

I do not wish to say anything in adverse criticism of Mr Bruce's work. I think he has been faithful, and tried to do the best for the work there. I have not adhered as strictly to mission rules as he has, and have broken them when it seemed best. I have felt that the rules were for the work, & not the work for the rules. For instance, one rule is that a school shall have fifteen scholars at least, and another is that the scholars shall pay a fee of one anna a month. But when I wanted schools, and regarded the places as important centres, if the people were not ready to fulfil the conditions, I went ahead & did the best I could, and the people have been educated up to the point where they appreciate the school. In many places this seems the only way to start work.

The evangelistic services in this region, held in accordance with plans referred to in the minutes of our May meeting, have done great good, and I hope this work can be carried on further.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

[illegible] Bates.

Sholapur. Aug. 20. 1888.

Rec'd Sept. 19.

Sholapur, India, Nov. 8, 1888.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston, Mass. U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Clark:

I did not intend to trouble you with any more letters on Bombay matters, but contrary to my repeated protests your Committee (Dr. Bissell Mr. Harding & Mr. E. S. Hume) have proposed my name as a member of a committee for further action. My reason for not wishing to act is that I do not wish to be involved in a continual quarrel with the missionaries in Bombay. The views of the missionaries in Bombay are different from mine on some points, and it entirely unfits me for evangelistic work to bear the consequences of expressing that difference. I sympathize with Mr. Smith in his reasons for resigning, and if I had not just come out from America and entered upon work so full of promise, I should be disposed to do likewise. As long as a certain woman is the leading spirit in our mission affairs in Bombay we cannot express opinions contrary to hers without being subject to a good deal of unpleasantness, and having our "meanness" reported ~~to~~ in detail to old and young in and out of our mission. The Scholars in the Byculla school report, to their parents her talks to them, so that Christians in our and other missions, and Hindus also hear freely her impressions of how the mission is acting.

The statistics which I gave you in my letter of April 30th, and which were in the main repeated in our May Meeting and also in the Majority report, have called out very bitter remarks. I told the Bombay brethren that I was quite ready to take back anything that was not right if they would show me where I was out of the way. Mr. Hume promised to do so, and at his request I gave him a copy of the statistics. But he has not attempted any reply except what is in the Minority report. Allow me to refer to one example of the way he has there misrepresented facts. I stated that about half of the church members in Bombay were from up country. In the Minority report Mr. H. says "This cannot be proved," and speaks as though only a very few were from places out of Bombay.

My main authority for my statement at that time was a letter from the pastor of the Bombay church from which I quote:— "Out of 95 communicants we have 54 received originally in the church, one from Belgaum, one from Sholapur, one from Kolhapur, 2 from Gujarat, 28 from Nagar districts, and 8 from other different parts." But I knew that there were more than one from Sholapur, and found on further inquiry that he had included in those "received originally" children who had been baptized and partly educated up country, but received to full communion while in Bombay. Counting these I thought it safe to say that one half were from up country. When your Committee were in Bombay recently they went over the church roll and found that 55 are from up country and 34 from Bombay. This is not an important matter, but it shows how things may be twisted. Many other statements in the Minority report are quite as wide of the mark as this. Your Committee finds that the statistics in the Majority report are "confirmed in almost every particular". Imagine our surprise when statements made by a majority of more than two thirds of the mission were entirely ignored in Boston, and contrary statements assumes to be correct.

Again, the minority, both in their report and more strongly since, have expressed a determination not to be guided by the majority. If they hold to this I see nothing but continued ill feeling ahead, unless the principles on which our mission has hitherto worked are given up. The wisest way for me, I think, is to express no further opinions on these questions. I see no possible use in talking or voting if the majority is not to decide. It only leads to bitterness, and does no good in the end. Your Committee think I should act because I am to be treasurer next year, but I do not think it is necessary, and I hope you will allow me to work on in my own field preaching and enjoying a gospel of peace.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

Sholapur, Nov. 8, 1888,
Rec'd Dec. 10.

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POST CARD CARTE POSTALE

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
No. 1 Somerset St.
Boston
Mass.

U.S. of America.

[illegible] 12th are

recd. & I have hesitated as to what to write in reply. All I ask is to have Mr. Harding or Dr. Fairbank or some one else act on that Committee instead of me. I wrote you my reasons, but you do not seem to "appreciate" them, & wonder why I could think of resigning. But when one's convictions become exasperating to the last degree, one is ready to give up work that is otherwise dear, & to purchase peace at a great price.

I feel that pressure is being brought to bear upon us to compel us to start work which the majority of the Mission do not approve. When started we shall be compelled to vote year by year to carry it on.

I purposed some time ago to say & write no more on this question. It is hard enough to be compelled to bear what cannot be helped, without ~~my~~ taking any part in it. Dr. Fairbank & Mr. Harding have both lived in Bombay & Mr. H. has already begun work on the Committee. I hope these gentlemen will not be told, as I was, that they do not know anything about Bombay & are not competent to judge.

Yours in peace!
L. S. Gates.

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Sholapur, India, Feb. 14, 1889.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.,

Dear Dr. Clark:

You will see, by referring to the minutes of our mission meeting for May 1888, that I asked appropriations for several new teachers for 1889; also for building some new school houses. Can you give me any hope that appropriations for these objects will be granted this year? I am already employing seven agents more than I have allowances for, and there is a loud call for more. I cannot employ these men long unless I have help. You may ask why I employed them before their allowances were granted. The best time to secure teachers is when our school year closes in October. As I had asked for allowances in May, I took these agents hoping that the funds would come. When there is a good opportunity to commence work in a new and promising place, it is hard to wait twenty months — say from May 1888 to Dec. 1889 — before knowing whether we can improve the chance. Last year I spent Rs. 150. more than my allowances, and brought it over into 1889, hoping it could be paid from this year's allowances. What is the prospect?

Yours sincerely,

L. S. Gates.

Sholapur, Feb. 14, 1889.

Rec'd March 13.

Sholapur, India, March 7. 1889.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
Boston, Mass.

Dear Dr. Clark:

I sent you a postal card a few days ago about acting on the Committee on Bombay matters. Some of the brethren think that as this committee was appointed in Boston it will not be easy for the mission to fill a vacancy; and perhaps I should write again.

I do not wish to shirk the work simply because it is disagreeable. You seem to think so. It *is* disagreeable. When I have expressed opinions on Bombay matters I have been so browbeaten that I have had an unutterable longing to be forever relieved from expressing an opinion again. You say that we look at things differently, and hence our statements are different. But, Dr. Clark, are there two ways of looking at the question, How many are two and two? Most of the questions & statements for which I have been so freely abused can have but one *true* answer.

But however I would be willing to go ahead if the Bombay brethren would consent to be governed by a majority of the mission. This they refuse to do. And even if they do promise we are not sure about the result. Our mission Secretary has been obliged to call the attention of Mr. Hume, in a public manner, to the fact that promises made by him have been disregarded by Mrs. Hume, which has resulted to the mission the same as though he broke them himself.

The Chapel business may be carried on without much friction, but when we come to other questions it will be more difficult. I never shall vote for any more money for the Bombay School as long as it is under its present management. I think it far better to have no school at all. Other brethren have heard things as bad as I have, and probably you have heard some of them. As far as I know, none of the Deccan missionaries have said a word to the natives about Bombay difficulties. It has not been so in Bombay, and stories have come to us sometimes when we could not help it. Children of our mission agents are in the Byculla school, and they have written home stories that they say Mrs. Hume has told them in school. "The mission wishes to close the Bombay School". "The mission does not approve of educating girls any longer." &c. Names are freely used, stories about the private relations of our missionaries have been told, some of which

Mr. Hume acknowledges have no foundation. Yet these same stories have been reported broadcast, and have come to us through Hindu children and Christian children in the school. And Mrs. Hume herself has told some of these stories directly to our missionaries. At our last mission meeting Mr. Hume came to me and asked me to say that some of these stories which Mrs. H. has reported were untrue. Hindus who have had children in the school have taken them out because such stories were told against our Deccan missionaries.

If our children are taken to Bombay and trained to despise us it is best I think to close the school, or let us go home.

From all which and more, ad nauseam, allow me to pray, Good Lord deliver me.

As others have begun on this Committee I think they had better go on. If it absolutely necessary to have the mission Treasurer on this Committee, I will resign in favor of some one else.

Very sincerely yours,

L. S. Gates.

Sholapoor, March 7. 1889.
Rec'd Apr. 3.

Sholapur July 8th 1889.

My dear Dr. Clark.

Your favor of June 4th reached us yesterday, & ~~I~~ we will answer it at once. The school in question is for boys & primarily for our christian boys; it is the Station School enlarged, so as to accommodate all the christian boys at Sholapur & also other children of Hindus & Mohamedans who may wish to come. When we wrote the circular in March & the letter in April, asking for Rs 2.000. we had reason to expect a Grant from Government of Rs 2000. towards the purchase of the building, for which the whole cost would be Rs 4.000. But near the close of May the Government changed their rules, so as to give a less proportionate sum for school-buildings. So that under the new rules we are likely to get only Rs 1.500 Hence we shall need Rs 2.500 from other sources.

After the new building is purchased & fitted up. the present Station-School buildings. will be used for the Girls' school.

These buildings are valued at Rs 1.500. And if this sum as you suggest, can be secured from the Woman's Board, & used for the purchase of the new premises, we shall be very glad. But as we intimated above, there will be needed besides these two sums (1.500 + 1.500) Rs 1.000 more to make up the Rs 4.000 & complete the purchase. We will try to raise some portion of the needed Rs 1.000 here, but the prospects of receiving much from local contributions are not good.

It seems to us however, very desirable to secure the building. We need it for our growing work. There is no probability of our finding another site so good, or another building so cheap. We have obtained land in the immediate neighborhood of the building, so that we shall not be annoyed by too near neighbors, & we may lose the opportunity of purchasing if we delay long. If therefore you can assure us that we may expect Rs 1.500 this year from the Woman's Board & so much of the remaining Rs 1.000 as may be needed, within two years from now, we will complete the purchase, & arrange here for the remaining Rs 1.000 or so much of it, as we cannot secure here from special donations, & then we will wait till next year or the first half of 1891, if necessary, for the final payment from home. We hope the Committee will assent to this, & that with as little delay as possible, you will be able to inform us of their favorable action.

We remain Ever truly Yours
C. Harding.
L. S. Gates.

C. Harding

Sholapur, July 8, 1889

Rec'd Aug. 9 P. C.

W. B. M.

Wanted, an explanation.

If the appropriations for premises in Bombay for the Amer. Mar. Mission is from "extra funds which could not be secured for the general work," and "is not to be criticized from any quarter as missionary expenditure," and "will in no wise affect what is done for the Deccan," then what is the meaning of "Contributions for Bombay House & Land." which have been acknowledged in the publications of the Board for the last year or two, drained from mission societies & circles all over the U.S., many of which would have gladly given for other objects if asked, and that too when the judgement of the mission was in favor of those other objects?

L. S. G.

Sholapur,
India, 7.11.'89.

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Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.
No. 1, Somerset St.
Boston
Mass.
U. S. of America.

A dying Groan from Sholapur.

When I came to Sholapur there was an open door – room that needed to be occupied. In the field assigned to me there were two families calling themselves Christians, but they have never been ornaments to the Church. There were no schools, no preachers and no mission agents of any kind. The famine kept us from work in the districts for a time, but we were planning for work when the way should open. We took more than twenty-five orphan children and put them in school. We built houses for them costing Rs. 800. With their help we dug a well; fenced, leveled and prepared a garden now estimated to be worth Rs. 1000. None of this expense has been met by the Board, but this property will belong to the Board when these children grow up and leave. Some of these orphans are now finishing their course of study, and are available for agents where they are needed.

During the last seven years the work in my district has developed so that there are now upwards of one hundred Christians in sixteen villages (outside of Sholapur). Three churches have been organized with one pastor for all. There are eight schools. There would be practically no limit to the extension of the work for some years to come (and there ought not to be) if we had the means. Schools are urgently needed and asked for, some of which would probably develop into churches. The needs are of funds (1) for the the support of teachers, and (2) for building houses where ~~they~~ none can~~not~~ be hired. The Board has not as yet made any grants for building in this district, except what I have raised myself. Do you ask why the *people* do not build? They are so poor that if they want a well for drinking water, the Government digs it for them. If they want a shelter for passing travelers, Government builds it.

Look at the needs in a few places.

In one village where there is a church there is no suitable place for meeting. The last time I was there we tried to meet under some trees, but the ground was so muddy that we had to abandon the place. We then went to the *chowdi*, but the *men* only go there. The women went home. The school is held in the *chowdi*; but is subject to all sorts of interruptions.

In another village a good school was opened, with about thirty scholars, but there was so much difficulty about getting a suitable place for the scholars to meet that the work had to be given up. In another large village the people have been asking for a school for several years. They were so urgent a few months ago that they proposed to apply to some other mission if they were not likely to get help from us. I sent a teacher there in Nov. last, but he has been so troubled about getting a house to live in that it has seemed several times as though the work would have to be abandoned. I have bought a good site for a house, at a low figure, but have not the money to build. There is great need of a preacher there as well as of a teacher. It is hard for a young man to be in such a place with no Christian within twenty miles. There is a score of villages in my district where there is a good prospect of early fruit if work can be carried on for a time.

Letters from home last year encouraged us to think that this work would receive more attention than formerly, and last October, when some graduates from the Normal School were available, I took them, hoping that money which had been asked for such work would be granted. But these hopes seem destined to be blighted. I have six teachers more than I have funds for, and some of these promising places must be abandoned unless help comes soon.

Besides, and with additional emphasis, let me say, that in two months from now five young men belonging to this district are expecting to graduate from the Normal school, and I have no funds to employ *them*. Three of them are our orphans, whose education has cost the Board nothing. When we began work here there were no men available for agents. Now when the first candidates are ready, the cry is, "No funds". We have looked forward with pleasant anticipations to the time when these young men would be ready to work. But now it seems that both they and we are to be sadly disappointed. They will get work in other missions, probably, if I am unable to employ them.

One of our missionaries (R.A.H.) visited some places in this district a few months ago. He said that he had remarked before coming — and his observations confirmed his opinion — that the greatest development in our mission in the next few years would probably be in this district. I judge from Dr Clark's letter of Sept. 10th 1888 that Mr. H. wrote in a similar way to Boston.

As a consequence of the development of the work in the district, our station school at Sholapur needs to be enlarged, to provide for the education of the more promising pupils from the ~~district~~ villages. Mr. Harding has written about this, but we get little hope of assistance. The prospect seems to be that the work in this region must die. In reply to our appeals we get the answer, "The Committee feel unable to make any grants beyond those most necessary, and included under your regular appropriations." If a young tree cannot have water enough to enable it to put out any new leaves in the growing time of the year, it must die. You say that we must put all new work into contingent estimates, which is virtually the same as postponing it indefinitely. While we were out touring last cold season, our best tent accidentally burned down. Perhaps this was a hint to us that our work was to cease.. We must get another tent if our touring is to be continued again this year. But if the work is to die we shall not need a tent. After we lost our tent last year, we continued touring with a tent twelve feet square as accommodation(!) for our family of seven. But we do not like to have our work cramped in all departments accordingly.

My allowances for Education, (which practically is pioneer evangelistic work) are not as large for this year as they were for 1888. I need at least Rs. 500. extra this year to meet the expenses of work which I have in hand, besides more to enable me to employ those students who are to graduate in October. Where are the funds? and echo will probably answer, "Where?"

L. S. Gates.

Sholapur,
August 20, 1889.

Sholapur, Aug. 20, 1889
Rec'd Sept. 23
Ack'd Oct 17.
Please return at once to be on file C

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Sholapur, India, Aug. 26, 1889.

Rev. N. G. Clark, D.D.

Boston, Mass., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Clark:

Your letter of Sept. 10th 1888 was duly received, also several letters of later dates. I did not think it would do any good to reply to them, as you seemed fully determined upon a plan for Bombay. I do not now write with any hope of changing your views, but if I make no reference to these letters, it may seem to you that I agree with what you have written. I have waited until now lest I might be accused of undue warmth of feeling and expression. I have said almost nothing to anyone about these matters for some months past; but the whole subject of expenses in Bombay has scarcely been absent from my mind for an hour for the last year and a half. It has pressed upon me with increasing force lately, as it seems more and more evident that what we ~~anticipated~~ expected and feared is sure to come, viz. a large, and, as it seems to some, a useless expense in Bombay, and a serious crippling of the work in the Deccan.

Allow me to refer briefly to a few of the many statements in your letters which seem to me to require comments. I do this principally to re=

lieve my own conscience, and to enable me to feel that I have done what I could to prevent what seems to me a great wrong.

In your letter of Dec. 3^d, 1888, page 1, you wrote, "I only regret that there should have been any dissent on the part of the mission from the action of the committee."

It seems to me that there were some very good reasons for it. (1) The investigations of the committee fully confirmed all the important statements of the majority, made in May 1888, and there seemed to be no ground for changing views. (2) The report of the committee was framed largely with reference to the wishes of persons in Boston, which wishes had been pretty strongly expressed. (3) All the members of the minority attended the meetings of the committee in which the report was discussed and drawn up, so that the minority practically had a majority on the committee. Hence there is some truth in your remark (page 2) that the report was made out and signed under pressure.

Besides, when Mr. Abbott was in England he saw Dr. Judson Smith, and his account of a conversation with Dr. Smith gave us to understand that money voted for one station in the mission was not to be regarded as affecting the contributions or allowances for other stations in the same mission. If this were so it would make a great difference with some, and it did have an influence on the vote of the mission in October. But practically this principle of Dr. Smith, as reported by Mr. Abbott has not been acted upon in the past; and such hopes for the future are not very promising. In fact it seems self evident that if persons and societies at home give money for a particular object in one station in the mission, their contributions for other stations must be affected thereby. The Board has certainly given us to understand each year that funds were limited, and that if we put the money into one station we could not expect a similar sum in addition for other stations, however great the need.

Page 2 of the same letter you wrote; — "I have heard several times in the course of the last few months that action has been taken with reference to Bombay x x x which was done under undue pressure." "If things have been done unwisely and improperly by a majority vote x x x it is not pleasant now to have the matter recalled."

This seems to me very surprising. "It is not pleasant" for you to know the truth? In your letter of Dec. 12th you wrote, "What we want is the truth & the whole truth." If we try to get at all the facts and vote intelligently and conscientiously, a storm is raised, and we are branded as having no sympathy with our brethren. If on the other hand we refrain from being too inquisitive lieve my own conscience, and to enable me to feel that I have done what I could to prevent what seems to me a great wrong.

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Again you write, "We must trust the honor of every missionary." &c "We can then accept a vote as meaning something substantial"

But a vote of more than two thirds of the mission on an important question, and involving a large amount of money was not accepted as substantial, and was almost entirely ignored; while numerous and long letters were sent to individuals to try to induce them to vote differently.

Page 4 of your letter Dec 3d you wrote, "The work in Bombay has certainly gone on steadily and made great success." Being the oldest church in the mission, and having in it the best men from our Deccan churches, it ought to do so. The Committee found however that the additions to the church in Bombay and the contributions of the native Christians there during the ten years after Mr. Hume went there were just about the same as they were during the ten years previous.

Page 5, you write, "Be careful to avoid expense. If you can secure land suitable for a bungalow on a moderate scale, not so large a one nor so expensive a one as that now occupied by Mr. E.S. Hume, with ground for a girls dormitory and a site for a church, I hope you will do so x x

We have no money for show or display. We cannot afford a dollar for such things."

This is good advice, and I should like to see it acted upon. But the plan is to get a house far grander than the present mission house, which must be changed, repaired, have outhouses &c. built, and provides no place for a church. Houses can be hired in Bombay for ~~four~~ and five percent of the market value, while in the Deccan we have to pay often as high as twelve per cent. It has been said that no suitable and convenient house could be hired in Bombay. But when houses were wanted there by our missionaries a few months ago, some of us learned that six houses suitable & conveniently near our present mission house could be hired. One was a house that has been occupied for some time by an S. P. G. missionary and family who are known to live in good style; but our Bombay people said they did not think it worth while to look at it.

You write, "I have been not a little perplexed by statements conflicting, contradictory." "I do not like to think anyone will wilfully misrepresent the facts."

When they are conflicting you take those of the minority without much question. If you had been treasurer of this mission for the last twelve years your eyes would have been opened a little. Concerning the statement that a large number of the church members in Bombay came from the Deccan (considerably more than half), Mr. Hume said in the Minority report, May 1888, "This cannot be proved." *When Mr Hume wrote that, he knew that I had a letter from the pastor of the Bombay church* (I had read it in mission meeting & Mr. Abbott had seen it before I had), *which proved this statement in detail and beyond question.* I could refer to other similar instances in the minority report and elsewhere, and I do not think that wilful misrepresentation is too strong a term to apply. I have repeatedly offered to correct or take back any statements that I have made concerning Bombay work that could be proved to be incorrect. Many promises have been made in this direction, but, except in letters to Boston, so far as I know, no attempt has been made to deny or correct them. I have lost hope of our getting honest & accurate statements from Bombay, through our missionaries there, when they are required for mission action. For two or more years the mission tried officially (thro' the Secretary) and by private individuals to have the registers of the Bombay school brought to mission meeting, but we never got them, and the Secretary said that he should not call for them again.

Your statements about the grant for Bombay ~~have~~ seemed to be inconsistent: At first you approved of Rs. 23.000 but said that the sum was not to be exceeded. "No more funds are to be looked for from here." (Boston). Afterwards, Rs. 46.000 were asked and you granted it, saying that your previous statement was made "not because we have no more money to give", but to avoid overrunning.

Compare this, please, with answers to our appeals for additional funds for our regular work in the Deccan. We are told to bring all of our estimates within certain figures each year, and not to ask for special grants unless we are willing to have them come out of our regular allowances for the following year. All new work must be put into contingent estimates, which practically postpones it indefinitely. Hence we cannot enlarge a school or extend our work with much hope of help to carry it on. There are 500 Christians in the Sholapur district and no Christian schools except our own. While there are only 150 Christians of our mission in Bombay, and there are other Christian schools that are open to our pupils.

We are told now that the money for Bombay is to be provided for outside of mission funds, and that the expense is "not to be criticized from any quarter as mission expenditure."

But we were asked to vote on the question with the understanding that mission money was to be used, and were pretty sharply dealt with because we did not approve of it.

Whether mission money is used or not, I think it more economical to rent for the present than to buy, as I have shown above, page 5. I think it is a pity that the recommendation of the majority a year ago to "rent for present needs" was not adopted. At present two houses are being rented for Rs. 200 per month - Rs. 2400 a year - said to be very commodious and convenient. But if we buy, the interest on Rs. 46.000 yearly is Rs 2760, besides repairs and taxes, which would be no less than Rs. 400 more, besides all the trouble of building. When Mr. Hume goes to America we shall not need to rent at all.

You wrote Dec. 12th 1888, that you could not appreciate my dissatisfaction "because somewhere and by somebody there is more expenditure of funds than you deem wise."

Now I do not think this is a fair way to put it. I am not put out "because somewhere and by somebody" &c. but because the funds are those of ~~the~~ our churches in America which are given for wise expenditure. - funds spent in our own mission, and in so close connection with work that I am personally engaged in that it is very materially affected, - funds that I am asked to vote upon - funds concerning the expenditure of which I felt some responsibility - funds concerning the expenditure of which you previously wrote. "We must trust the honor of every missionary and the fidelity of all to the solemn trust and duties committed to them".

Since matters have gone as they have, we have very little encouragement in trying to be economical or conscientious in the use of mission funds, and I hope to be excused hereafter from all action and responsibility with reference to work in Bombay. I do not think anything has happened since I came to the mission that has done so much toward destroying all interest in the management of mission business as this action of the Board with reference to Bombay. Some do not want to attend any more mission meetings. When the action of the majority is not regarded, who can blame them?

In the P.S. of your letter of March 14th you wrote, "Miss Abbott writes me of drawing $75, in accordance with our rules, for housekeeping expenses. She writes that you are a little uncertain as to the propriety of it. It was quite right."

I do not know how my name came to be connected with this, unless Mr. Harding wrote to Miss Abbott my opinion, thinking that as I was to be treasurer it might affect me. Mr. Harding was treasurer ~~last~~ year, and asked my advice, in a private way about paying this, and I advised him to write to Boston and get permission to pay it. I did doubt the propriety of his paying it on his own responsibility, and doubt it still, according to your rules. (See next & last page of cover of "Regulations for Mission and Station Treasurers", Mch. 21, 1882.) My advice to Mr. Harding was based principally upon a similar case respecting Arthur Bissell, I think. I thought the money was due him, and ventured to pay it. Mr. Ward hauled me up for it, and said that I should have waited to hear from him first. If I do not follow the rules laid down, Mr. Ward is after me with a sharp stick. If I do, missionaries complain, & charge me with being hard on them, and you support them in their charges.

As I said in the beginning, I do not think this letter will do much good. I wrote it several weeks ago, only send it because I want to feel that I have done my duty towards putting you on your guard.

Yours sincerely,

L. S. Gates.

P.S. There are some things in this letter which I think Mr. Ward would like to see, & I shall be glad to have you show it to

L. S. G.

Ackd Oct. 17.

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L. S. G.

Ackd Oct 17.

Rec'd Sept. 2

(COPY.)

Shelapur, India, Nov. 28, 1889.

To

The Young Ladies of the Missionary Society of the South Evangelical Church, West Roxbury, Mass.

Dear Friends:

Dr. Clark sent me a few weeks ago eleven dollars and forty-eight cents which you very kindly gave for the Lord's work in this field. I have taken my pen several times to acknowledge the gift, and to tell you something about the work, but you do not care to hear about the sad things, and these crowded upon me so that I found it impossible to write. I have had to dismiss three teachers, send off to other missions four nice young men that had just finished their studies and who were needed here and wanted to come here---and our own orphan children besides. I have turned away from our schools promising pupils who wanted to go on with their studies, and done other like things that have made me sad; but your contribution will help me very much, and there are some things that are not so sad. Boys from this field have taken the lead in the graduating classes at the Normal School of Ahmednagar for two years past, and another from this field promises to ta the first prize this year. The schools in the villages never have done better than the last year, and the number of girls in the schools is increasing. Two women---wives of men who were baptized about four years ago---were wild with rage when their husbands came to Christ. One of them would have killed me if she could. She stirred up the people to come with clubs and axes to mob me and thus prevented my baptizing her husband the first time I tried to do so. Both these women left their husbands. But now they have both decided to be Christians. Another woman was not so demonstrative, but just as bitter. Her husband used to beat her. After he became a Christian she was angry to see that he was kind to her. She wanted to find occasion to revile the new religion. He treated her so well that she finally broke down, and is now an intelligent and active member of the church. A young man of good caste came from a little hamlet a few months ago. He is a bright openhearted fellow, and will probably be baptized soon. There have been additions to our numbers in the village churches nearly every month this year.

Again thanking you for your gift,

Very Sincerely Yours,

(Signed) L.S. Gates.

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(Signed) L. S. Gates.

Ahmednagar — Nov. 28. 1887

Gates, Mrs. Fannie H.

in return to this, I do not wish to take your time.

Mr. Gates grows stronger each year. The prospects now are that we may be able to stay in the country as long as Mr. & Mrs. Herrick have! Our two missionary sunbeams are very well & hearty, and a source of joy to all about them.

At Sholapur our work moves on, but very slowly, as it seems to us. My little orphans are doing well, and are a great comfort. We long for aid, & beg you to send soon, but feel you will do so as soon as it is in your power.

Our united kind regards to Mrs. Clark and yourself.

Yours very faithfully,
Fanny H. Gates.

We thank you & the Board, very heartily, for your kind consideration of my dear father & mother. I have thought many times to write you of this, & hope you will not consider my thanks too late.

Mehonda Hume

Watwad,
Feb. 15th/81.

My dear Mr. Clark,

Rec'd March 28th

I am sure you will be glad to hear from this "Bethel". Of course you have a great many particular objects to be interested in, but I think the Christian community here in the Mogalai must be one. Taught & led by the Spirit as these simple artless people have been, it would delight the heart of any Christian to see these dear ones.

Last Sabbath at the hour of meeting, it was inspiring to see the happy smiling faces of the Christians telling of a peace within, which might well be envied by those of higher estate.

There were about sixty present, but not all communicants. There were representatives from, I think, eight villages of this vicinity. Some had come two miles, others five, six, eight and twelve miles, to be present at the administration of the

There was no wealth; the poorest of the poor, but dear to the Lord. The men, day-labourers earning about $1.50 a month, sat with bare brawny arms, for they can afford but little clothing. One said he seldom sees money, as he is paid in grain. The women looked hard-worked, & most of them have to work all day long in the fields, getting even less than the men. One young woman came forward for baptism, who was ashamed to stand up, as she had just a few rags tied together as clothing. To tell the truth, I did not think of the "outward man" as we sat there, I have drawn all this from recollection. Their beaming countenance only, attracted attention.

Old Mesula who was ordained last year, is now quite blind with his bodily eyes but happy even in his infirmity & his face lights up when telling of God's dealings with him.

The towns-people who used to be so bitterly opposed to the Christians, are as friendly as they

They respect Mesuba, and all speak kindly of him. Some have gone so far as to say they believe in Christianity, but they cannot accept it, on account of caste. The patel (head-man) has said he is willing his children should become Christians.

We think the Christians must have been very discreet in their conduct, to have lived down the opposition, which is no small matter in this country, on account of caste.

Just now, we hear that the clerk in making out the census, has not recognized Christians, including them among the Hindus. Tukaram, Mesuba's son (& a son worthy of the father) says this is not because of any especial enmity to the Christians, but because a Hindu does not wish to write the name of Christ.

I am cordially received wherever I go, & I am thankful for strength given for this work.

I have written very hastily to tell you a very little of these people of God & bespeak your sympathy and prayers. Please do not trouble to write

Solapur,
Nov. 9th 1881.

My dear Dr. Clark,

It nearly frightens me from my purpose of writing you, to have my good husband tell me I ought to write from this big sheet of paper!

This mail will take to you the Minutes of our last meeting, by which you will learn that the Mission have sanctioned our asking Miss Fanny Graham to come to Solapur, to work in connection with our Mission. We do not know her personally, but her father is a good man, and a long-tried friend of the Mission — Thomas Graham. We hear good reports of her, and trust she may prove a good worker.

We think from expressions we have seen in your letters at times, that you would approve of missionaries trying to interest Eurasians in mission work, and giving them employment as far as seemed practicable. We hope we shall receive your approval in what we have done. I have not yet heard from Miss Graham in answer to my proposal, but trust she will look upon it favorably. I have long felt the necessity of having more helpers for women here, & we have both prayed over

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I have been laid by so much the past few months, it has been a grief to me to feel work was not being done. I can never rely upon myself. I may be well for a week, and suddenly have to give up! This is a very trying climate, & it is hard to pick up when one once gets down. But my husband and my little girlies are always well, and we love the work here.

The work for a lady might be divided here into two classes, school & Zenana or work among the women. There are four schools to be looked after, two heathen, & two Christian. In the latter I include my 24 orphan children. One of the heathen schools is for high-caste girls, & this opens up the Zenana, as I can go to the houses of all these girls. That is, I could go, if I had strength, but cannot now. I have only two Bible women, there is work for more, but I would rather have other Christian women who are not paid, drawn into the work. I have some one of them go with the Bible women so the two do not go together, & yet do not go alone. I recently applied to an Eng. Society for the support of one, & that has been granted me, of which I am very glad. Besides the work for the secluded women there are crowds in the by-ways & alleys, who will give a most hearty welcome. The poor women in the jail are delighted away to see us. For months I have done very little of all this, only looking after my orphans, teaching them to sew, & sing.

My heart goes out more and more to the children, and I love to work for them and make them happy, and train them for useful lives (as I hope.) My orphan children are very dear to me, and I pray they may sometime make up for me the work I leave undone. We want them to feel they are earning their own support. Besides all their own work of grinding, bringing water, chopping fuel & washing their own clothes, they work an hour a day in the garden. Just now, they have commenced digging a well, so that they may learn practical farming. We hope to make a beginning next year. Several boys are supported by the sale of eggs & of milk from one cow I set apart for this purpose. I have been very much helped in various ways for the boys, & have not had to ask the mission for help. Two or three of the boys who were not doing very well at school, I have in the house, and they are learning all manner of housework. All can sew neatly, & as a general thing, make their own garments.

I fear I have spun out my story very long. I did not realize I was saying so much. Excuse me.

We are longing to have our good friends Mr. & Mrs. Harding back again.

We are sorry Mr. Abbott comes out single, but as half is better than none, we shall still give him a warm welcome.

We hope the Prudential Committee will have some good person to send to us soon, as requested.

With our united regards to Mrs Clark & yourself,

Yours very sincerely,

Fanny H. Gates.

P.S. It just occurs to me I had forgotten one thing. While at Nagar, I saw a good photograph of you, & I immediately longed for one. The only one we have is very poor & very old! I would like a better one, so very much!

Mrs. Fanny H. Gates.
Sholapur. Nov. 9. 1887
Rec'd Dec. 12

Pd

Mrs Graham.

vision, with over thirty Bible women.

We cannot but feel that one reason Christianity has advanced so much more rapidly down here, is that so much more has been made of education, & even our feeble handful of teachers we may not be able to hold much longer, owing to the call for retrenchments.— But excuse me, I was intending not to burden you with that thought in my letter, for I know you hear enough of it.

I am called away to my packing now.

With love from my good husband & myself.

Yours very sincerely,
Fanny H. Gates.

Kodai Kanal.
June 2nd '84.

My dear Mr. Clark,

I have been meaning for several months past to write you. We are always delighted to hear from you, which unfortunately is seldom, for we write so little to you.

I anticipated writing scores of letters while away from home duties, but I have allowed the time to slip away, & have written little.

This is our last day at this delightful haven of rest, & I will just write a wee letter before we enter again the heat & vexations of the plains.

We have spent a most charming two months here, and begin to regret we cannot oftener have such a change. We have profited physically, & I trust spiritually, by this communion with Nature, & with congenial Christian eart

Camp Anjangaw
Nov. 25. 84

We return to our work eagerly, notwithstanding sincere regrets at leaving these Hills of God. We have profited by comparing notes of mission work. I shall go back encouraged at having seeing the trials & discouragements in other fields — feeling that we have much to be thankful for.

I go back quite jubilant in regard to my health, for I am better than for years, & in some respects — in which I expected to be an invalid for life, I seem to be quite cured. Our children have become so hearty & rosy. So, in every respect we feel very thankful that we have had this change.

I wrote my father we might stay out here twenty years, if we could come here every year!

We have been saddened by hearing of backslidings on the part of some we have left behind, & it makes us with at times we might always stay at our post. These people are so like children, & are easily led by whoeve happens to be with them.

We had a very interesting tour last cold season, and hope to be out much longer this coming season. We need & long for more helpers. In our whole field where are hundreds of villages, we have but three helpers — three young inexperienced school-teachers — & one good Christian woman, who acts as Bible woman. Down here, the number of helpers a missionary has are numbered by the score. I have appealed to the Zenana Mission Society for help in supporting two Bible women in Solapur — if I can get them. The work done here in So. India among women, is marvelous. One young lady was telling of 500 houses, with 2000 scholars, under her immediate superout lately, which is a power for good. The manufacturer put upon the box, a padlock with the stamp Giant on it. I often think it is really like a giant placed in small quarters, but ready to do any amount of good, when once unlocked. These people are always attracted by music, & the instrument draws them. I must tell you an amusing incident that occurred a few days ago. We were pitched at Angar, half a mile or so, from a temple dedicated to Khandoba. Last Monday was a feast-day in his honor, & people came from near villages on short pilgrimages. Some school-boys spying our tent among the trees, came over. Mr. Gates had a talk with them, & I sang & played to them. About a quarter of an hour after they had gone, while busy about the tent, we heard quite a commotion outside.

Camp Anjangaon
Nov. 29th '84

My dear Dr. Clark,

Your kind letter was received three or four weeks ago, & was welcome, as your letters always are. I have not it by me, to refer to the date.

We are out in tents now, & are enjoying the work of direct contact with the ignorant masses.

We feel encouraged in the work of this region, & feel that God is crowning & blessing the work. Mr. Gates has done a great deal of hard, earnest work here about, & it encourages him to see some results, small though they may be at present.

There are two or three things which especially encourage us, & I feel sure you will be pleased to hear of them. One is, that thus far, just about here, those who have been the first to come out & ask for baptism, have been the prominent men of the Mahars in their respective villages. They are men of some property, & thus independent of aid from us.

Also, they have the respect of the people, & thus Christianity gains their respect.

These men, not being dependent upon day labor for their living, go about a great deal from place to place, & carry the "good news" wherever they go. This phase of the work we are greatly pleased with.

The Christian influence is felt even where there are only two or three in a place. Here, for instance, only one man has been baptized until recently. Originally, the Mahars here were noted as being great thieves, & a hard set of people. Now, people say there are no thieves, & just the same as no idol worship among the men. The men say that the women are all very bad, & beg for some one to teach them. I had hoped to do a little toward drawing them to Christ, but I have not been strong since coming out, & my little Edith has been so poorly she didn't like me to go out of sight. Since coming here, I have been on my back mostly until today. I sent & asked the women if they would not come to me, instead of my going to them. A company came, & I had a very nice talk with them. They remember my visit of last year, & tell how I talked to their children. One woman told with tears how her little babe had died, that I took in my arms & admired when here.

We have had a Baby Organ

The cutting & pattering continued. & looking out, we found we were surrounded. One man said there was not a single person left at the temple! They had all come over to hear the organ! They stayed until dark. I asked some of the boys if Khandoba would not be angry if they left him so long. "He's only a stone, how can he get angry," said they. "If he can't get angry then he can't love you, can he?" asked I. "Oh! no, of course not." I answered, "But I should want a God who could love me. My God does love me, & he is your God too, & loves you." Mr. Gates preaches nearly evening with his sciopticon, & gathers great crowds. Just now, he is showing it about an eighth of a mile away, & I can hear a good deal that he says. He goes off to any village within eight

ride, night or morning, & sometimes
both times. The vigorous exercise on horse-back keeps him well.

A few days ago, a Hindu came to my husband, & wished him to baptize his child. He said he wanted his child to become a Christian, if he were not ready himself!

Many, in villages all about, seem interested, & just ready to come out, but hold off for this one, or that one, to come out too.

I have written a very rambling, disconnected letter, but I was afraid I should be too lengthy, & so tried to condense.

I hope Mr. Gates will find time to write a little to go with this.

Yours very sincerely,
Fanny H. Gates.

Forwarded, with many thanks for the privilege of reading, by A. Hazen, this 6th day of Jan/85.

Mrs Gates mentions that 3 men were baptized on that tour. They returned to Sholapur, Dec 1st on account of the little girl who seems to have been quite seriously ill.

Anjangav, Nov. 29. 1884.

Rec'd Jan. 7. 1885.

Ans^{d} do. as

Harding,

, Rev. Chas,

Amherst Mass. Mar. 16th 1881.

My dear Dr. Clark

I thank you for your letter of the 11th inst & am very glad for the special grant. - In regard to returning to India our definite plan is to go as soon as I am able, & hope this will be next Fall. though it is more likely to be a year from this Spring. I had fever so long before leaving India that most people acquainted with the circumstances would advise my staying here two years. I shall probably be able to decide by June or July. We are expecting to leave three of the little children in this country, if suitable homes can be found for them. We are praying to be guided in reference to this. There will be no difficulty I think about Mary the eldest, but John & George 8 & 6 yrs old, it may be more difficult to find a suitable home for them, & possibly we shall take them back with us. They all cling to us with a wonderful affection, to say nothing of our clinging to them. We do not mean to be overtaxed by the meetings we attend, or to allow anything to hinder us in our recovery of health, so far as we can control events. But it is often difficult to refuse invitations to speak especially where we are able to see personal friends in connection with the meetings we attend. We are to be in Lowell on the first Sunday in April + probably in Taunton the following Sunday, + in Gardner the 31st of March I will try to see you as we pass through Boston. I was hoping Mr. Abbott would go to India this spring, but I fear from what you write that his going is delayed. I do wish that two new men could go out this year. There is abundance of work for two men at Bombay, Sholapur + Satara, + very soon there will be but one at each of those large stations, + the brethren at Nagar are overworked. You have doubtless heard that the long coveted new building spot in Bombay has at last been obtained from Government, + now we may hope for new buildings in a convenient but healthful site. It is of the Lord that the place has been kept for us.

We greatly enjoy this beautiful spring weather.

Ever most truly yours

C. Harding.

Amherst Mar 16. 188

Recd Mar. 18

Amherst Mass. Feb. 24th 1881.

My dear Dr. Clark:

I find our expenses somewhat more than I anticipated. I intended to make $1200. do. by supplementing it a little with private funds. but my older children need nearly all I can spare from that source, & I shall be very thankful if we can have $200. more, that is $1400 for the year. Were we expecting to remain in this country. we should arrange to live more economically. but for a temporary residence, with the main object to regain health, we are doing I think as well as we can. Mrs. Harding & I are both steadily gaining in health, & the children are quite well. Believe me as ever

most truly yours

C. Harding.

C. Harding
Feb. 24 1881

present another aspect within the time mentioned, when a review of all the factors involved very probably may not discover anything to prevent his renewal of labor in the old field.

I took the liberty of calling Dr. H. I. Bowditch in consultation in respect to the condition of the heart, and I find he corroborates my opinion fully.

His fee for consultation was $15.00, and I mentioned to him that I would refer payment to the A.B.C.F. Missions.

Yours sincerely
James W. Denny M.D.

April 26th 1881.

Rev. N. G. Clark: Southboro #15

My dear Sir.

In the case of Rev. Charles Harding, whom you sent for examination yesterday, I desire to report as follows:

I find no organic heart trouble, but a functional cardiac disturbance referrable to disorder of the innervation of that organ, manifested by intermittent pulse.

320

Neither liver nor spleen are diseased, both of which are so often involved after long residence in India, and in present another aspect, within the time mentioned, when a review of all the factors involved very probably may not discover anything to prevent his renewal of labor in the old field.

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~~20 188 No. 7 Marlborough St.~~

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Recd May 30.
Aubert Watts
May 28. 1881.

malarious climates.

This functional, nervous, trouble with the heart, is one which may be fairly referred to malaria, and the exhausting conditions inevitably connected with his work in a famine and fever district.

These local conditions are, I understand, exceptional. With favorable crops and with the ordinary rain-fall famine, fever, and malaria will not be hazardous factors complicating any question

Amherst Mass Apr. 29th 1881.
Rec'd Apr 30.
Harding

relating to the sanitary condition of the Mahratta Mission, as now presented for consideration.

At present I am of opinion that, so far as relates to the return to that special field of Mr. Harding, there would be serious danger of producing permanent disability, were he to go back there under at least, a year's time or thereabouts.

With care, and freedom from anxiety or mental labor, I should anticipate great improvement, so that the whole subject of his return would

Read apr 30.

Amherst Mass Apr. 29th 1881.

Dr. J O Means

My dear Brother

Your letter of yesterday has just come to hand. I know of nothing to prevent my going to Newark for the meeting of the New Jersey Association. May 16-17 & if after consultation with Dr. Haydn you desire me to go & will write me accordingly - I will go & do the best I can for the good Cause.

We are so thankful to know that Dr. Alden is really getting better

Recd April 30.

Amherst Mass Apr. 29th 1881.

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Very truly Yours

C. Harding.

322

malarious climate.

Rev. C. Harding
Rec'd May 30.

Amherst Mass
May 28. 1881.

Dr. J. O. Means
My dear Brother.

I am sorry I cannot go to Providence for the Rhode Island Conference. I have just had my upper teeth out & the new ones will not be put in for about two weeks. I shall be able to speak again by the 18th or 20th of June. So the dentist tells me this morning. We are very thankful that Dr. Alden is so much better. — We are having a very good visit from Mr. Wells. The Parks will be in Boston Sunday or Monday next we expect. Very Truly Yours

C. Harding

Rev. C. Harding
Amherst June 24.1881
Recd June 25

Amherst Mass June 24. 1881.

My dear Dr. Clark

I have been absent several days & found your letter of the 20th awaiting my return last night. In reference to your question about Mr. Smith & the missionaries at Nagar, I have been in frequent correspondence with Fairbank & Bissell ~~&~~ & have recently had two days with Mr. Wells. when I asked him all about the work & the missionaries & I have no reason to think there has been any uncomfortable feeling or friction between the older missionaries & Mr. Smith. It is possible that Mr. S. may have had such feelings, but I do not think the others have been aware of it. From some little things that have been written the past year I have inferred that both Mr. & Mrs. S. were rather independent in forming & carrying out their plans, but I think there has been no lack of good feeling towards them on the part of all. & all have seemed to expect that they would become valuable co-laborers. A year ago Mr. Wells wrote me that Mr. Smith did not join them in their meeting for Bible study once a week, for he thought it would interfere with his study of the language, but no one blamed Mr. S. or doubted his conscientiousness, I have heard several times that he was not getting along quite as well as usual in the use of the language, but he must have had very good facilities for study, probably as good as any one has ever had in our mission, & I presume there is no doubt but that he will get the language well. But just now would not-obliged ~~not~~ to mark him rather low at his examination, & he doubtless finds it very hard to begin giving religious instruction in the Marathi, All do.

I ~~believe~~ know it has been hoped & expected that he would assist in the theological School at Nagar in connection with other work, unless changes at other stations rendered it absolutely necessarily for him to go elsewhere, though it would ~~be~~ hardly be natural to talk with him much about this before it was known how he would succeed in the language & what the state of the mission would be when he was ready to begin work. The idea of taking up a new station is his own & does not come from the other missionaries, I have not heard from R. A. Hume direct about this, but have no reason to think that his opinion differs from the others.

In regard to Frank Bissell it has seemed to me that he has not as yet shown energy & devotion to Christ sufficient ~~enough~~ to warrant his being sent out as a missionary. Possibly I have misjudged him. He is very pleasant & genial & gentlemanly. I have met him twice, & cannot help loving him, yet he greatly needs stirring up. I expect to be in New Haven next Wednesday & if he is there I will see him again & I will also talk with one or two of his Professors whom I used to know, & if I can write you more encouragingly about him I will do so. If he is at all fit to go out, I should be very thankful, both for the works sake & for his parents sake. I remain ever

Most truly Yours

C. Harding.

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Amherst Mass. July 7, 1881.

My dear Dr. Clark

I was at New Haven last week. Frank Bissell had left a few days before & I did not see him. I saw one of the Professors of the Seminary who spoke of Frank B. as a good man, but as lacking in energy. I saw also Rev. Mr. Gallup of Madison Ct. whom I used to know in College with whom Frank B. had spent several months & preached for him several times. Mr. Gallup said that Frank had ability & _might_ do well, though there was a great lack of Earnestness in his character. He said Frank was always ready to take a part in meetings when called upon to do so, & he spoke very well, though he had noticed that his people had not seemed much interested in him. On _thinking_ the matter over, it seemed to me the most that I could do in the interests of our mission & as a friend of his father & mother would be to write him, urging him to make application to be sent out as a missionary & to send on to you his testimonials in the usual way, & let the Committee decide as to his probable fitness for the work. But just as I was leaving, I met _Arthur_ Bissell on the side walk & had a ten minutes talk with him. I asked Arthur if he thought Frank would like to go to India as a missionary, & he said he did not know, & indicated by his appearance, as it seemed to me, that he thought it doubtful.

Amherst Mass. Feb. 3rd 1881. Feb 12. 1881.

as the brothers have been together for two years, & are receiving frequent letters from India; it seems to me the fact that Arthur could not tell whether Frank wished to go to India or not, indicates clearly that he does not care much about it & it would probably be useless for me to write him.

Since my last letter to you in reference to Mr. Smith of our Mission, I have seen Mr. Park & learned what I did not know before, that Mr. Smith had felt that R. A. Hume had been rather too officious in advising & helping him of late, & that this was probably one cause of Mr. S's dissatisfaction at Nagar. Mr. Hume is perhaps prone to this fault, but it arises solely I believe from his desire to help the work & to help his brethren, & also from a slight inability to appreciate how it strikes others who are less transparent in character.

I long to get back to India. Nearly all the brethren are overworked & it will be a wonder if some of them do not break down this year. As ever

Most truly yours,
C. Harding.

Rev. C. Harding
Amherst. Feb. 3, 1881
Recd Feb. 12

Amherst Mass. Sepr 3rd 1881.

My dear Dr. Clark

I received your letter some time ago, at the close of which you spoke of Dr. Norris in reference to her going back to Bombay with an associate. I have not written about this, because I really do not know what to say. I feel very anxious that this style of work should be followed up, & I cannot but hope that Miss. Norris may get a fresh spiritual impulse here, that will fit her for better work should she return; not simply giving medicine to sick people, but doing that in such a way as to show her love to Christ & to the souls he died to save. But I think whether she goes to Bombay or to an interior station that she had better have another lady associated with her, & there would be abundance of work for two ladies at any of our central stations.—

Your postal came last Monday & since then the news that we had feared of Mrs. Hume's death. I presume Bro. Hume will stay on for a time at least & continue his work in the Theol. Seminary, where he is so much needed. & I presume Mr. & Mrs. Smith will now waive their objections to staying in Nuggur, & do what they can there. If suitable unmarried ladies can be found to take charge of the girls' school at Nuggur I for one should rejoice to see them sent out at once, & I presume this would be the feeling of most in the Mission.— I hope nothing will prevent our returning in the Spring. I have improved in health a thing towards increasing an interest in missions among the churches about here. We have a number of invitations to attend meetings this month & the next & as we are both pretty well, I think we had better do what we can until the cold weather comes. But during the Winter I think we had better be mostly at home. It is much more trying to go about then than it is in warmer weather. Our Ruby is to be with us this Winter & to be out one year from Wellesley. It is a comfort to her & to us to have her here, & on the score of health will I think be an advantage to her, though she is as well as usual. We are deeply grieved at the news from India. But the Lord will take care of his own cause though we must not forget to pray the Lord of harvest to send forth more laborers. There ought to be at least three more men there at once.

I am so thankful that Dr. Alden is able to be at his place again.

Believe me always most truly yours

C. Harding

C. Harding
Oct. 3, 1881

Amherst Mass. Sepr 12. 1881.

My dear Dr. Clark

I thank you for your letter of the 6th inst. In regard to Grants in aid from Government for our schools in India, until recently we have not any of us thought it best to ask for any. The Officials in the Educational Department were for years hostile to Christianity, or very indifferent. & it did not seem best to have anything to do with them. Besides as we make Christian teaching so prominent in our Schools, it has seemed to some incongruous to take from the revenues of a heathen people for such a purpose. There has been a much more liberal policy in regards to Mission Schools in the Madras Presidency than in ours, though it is much better with us now than it formerly was. and two or three years ago, Bro. R. A. Hume wished to ask a Grant for the Girl's School, & the Mission made no objection to it. I think he did receive a Grant from Government that year, probably three yrs ago, Afterwards the School came under the care of Dr. & Mrs. Bissell & they preferred not to have this connection with Government. & the advantage from this source has not been so apparent as to induce the Mission to urge it in any case.

I suppose you know that our Ruby hopes to spend most of her life in the mission field. & I think the same is true of Katie Fairbank, and on hearing of Mrs. Hume's death my first thought was. "Is it not time for these two girls to go & take charge go if their Fathers advised it. But on the whole I do not think it the best thing, & advise them to go now. I did however write to Dr. Fairbank about it in a recent letter, but his opinion about their going out so young & unmarried coincides with mine I believe. If however Ruby should have a decided conviction that it was her duty to go now, I think that would turn the scale in favor of her going. But she would like to complete her course of study; and besides the fact that she is here will make it easier for us to leave the younger children & for them [illegible] left, for there is a tender attachment between them.

The death of our native pastor in Bombay will bring much additional work upon Bro. E. S. Hume. We really ought to have two or three new men in the mission at once.

Ever Most Truly Yours

C. Harding.

Rev. Charles Harding
Amherst, Sept. 12, 1881.
Rec'd Sept. 15.

Rev. O. Harding

Amherst. Nov 26. 1881

Recd Nov 28.

Amherst Mass. Nov. 26. 1881.

My dear Dr. Clark,

Your postal came today. I presume we shall start for India the early part of May & be on the Red Sea the early part of June. Our plan is to get ~~to get~~ to India just after the hot season, & near the beginning of the rains — The best time on the Red Sea would be from Nov 1st to May 1st but May & June are not specially uncomfortable generally. The best time to go to our part of India is in Novr — but the raining season that comes just before that, is frequently pleasant in the Deccan. i.e. in the interior My health

Amherst Mass. Dec. 15. 1881.

is steadily improving & I presume nothing will prevent our going in the Spring. Mrs. Harding & the children are well.

A letter just rec'd from Dr. Fairbank speaks of your suggestion to the Mission in reference to single ladies going to take charge of the girls' school at Nagar. I also wrote to them about two months ago & we shall probably hear something from the Mission before long. upon this subject.

Ever truly Yours,
C. H. Harding.

My dear Dr. Clark:

Several of the
the request of our Mission tha
for work at Ahmednagar. & that th
ters of our mission. Our Rub
call & she has made up her mi
cates that she ought not to go.
the same decision, though s
sisters. These two girls are muc
they are I think more likely
mednagar. than any others tha
the language quickly & well, &
mission & the work. Were they
think it wise for them to go ou
it now. were it not for the spec
remarkable unanimity of the miss
girls are in very good health
terested in the question of the
write me if you have any sug
has, they will make formal app
We are all well as usual. We ha
for the children to be left
in them & I presume. both in

Amherst Mass. Dec. 15. 1881.

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e missionaries have written me about
that two unmarried ladies be sent out
the very strong preference is for daugh-
Ruby seems to regard this as a personal
mind to go unless providence indi-
go. Katie Fairbank is I think coming to
h she hesitates on account of her younger
much attached to each other, & on the whole
kely to succeed in the girls School at th-
that could be obtained. They will get
, & they are in full sympathy with the
y not daughters of the mission I would not
out so young, & I should hesitate about
special necessities of the work, & the
mission in regard to their going. Both the
th now. I am sure you will be in-
these ladies going, & I wish you would
suggestions. If Katie F. decides as Ruby
application in reference to going.
, have not yet made certain arrangements
eft here, but several parties are interested
in reference to our own, & the younger Fairbank

children, we shall be able to find

Ever Affly

Amherst, Dec. 15, 1881

Rec'd Dec. 16

riad suitable places.

ffly yours C. Harding.

Amherst Mass. March 1st 1882.

My dear Dr. Clark.

We are now planning to leave for India. about May 10th & I ought to write to you of two or three matters. I presume there is no special risk in my going back to India now. though I will see Dr. Denny the next time I have an opportunity. I have gained steadily ever since last June. & have no symptoms of my old trouble. though I haven't gained much in flesh & very likely never shall.

We want to make a few purchases in Boston, for ourselves & Katie F. & our Ruby & if there is to be a farewell meeting between now & May 1st we might plan to do our purchasing at that time. Is there likely to be such a meeting. or shall we come just when it is most convenient? I am sorry that I shall have to ask you for a supplementary grant as I did last year. Our year closes May 21st We shall probably leave between the 8th & 13th of May. so that the year will not be quite up.

but I am afraid I shall need about $200: more i.e. 1200.+200. in all. Can I draw this if it is necessary?

We have decided to take back our three youngest children; they will be during this year 7. 5. & 3 yrs old. and we shall leave the two older ones. Mary (nearly 11) will go to Pittsfield & John (9) to Northampton.

We have just heard from India that Mr. R. A. Hume is thinking of remaining longer & of having his sister Sarah go out to keep house for him. I presume this is not yet decided as Mrs. Hume of New Haven had not written us about it.—The churches in Amherst have enjoyed an interesting work of grace during the last two months & we have had the great privilege of participating somewhat in the work.

Mrs. Harding unites with me in kindest christian regards to yourself & to Dr. Alden & Mr. Strong

Very truly Yours

C Harding.

P.S. We have just heard indirectly from New Haven that Miss Sarah Hume is going with us. but as she is teaching, they do not wish to speak of the matter just yet.

Amherst. Mass. Jan. 1, 1882

Recd. Jan. 3

Amherst Mass. Mar. 4. 1882.

My dear Dr. Clark.

Your letter of yesterday has just come. Thank you. Mrs. Harding & I will D.V. come next week for the meeting & to make purchases. Ruby reaches Poughkeepsie to-day. So I presume she will not come. but I will write to her & to Katie F.

I did not know about the allowance for refit. though I knew there was sometimes an allowance. The sum you mention $325. will I think be all we shall need. It certainly will unless we have some unlooked-for expenses.

I will write to Mr. Ward about engaging our passage next Monday.

We heard from Mrs. Hume yesterday about her daughter Sarah's going with us.

Kindly send notice of the farewell meeting to

Mrs. J. C. Greenough 178 Power St Providence R.I.

Mrs. Munger. Washington St opposite Euclid Dorchester Mass

Miss. H.S. Proctor 41. Linwood St. Roxbury Mass.

Mrs. Lemuel Gulliver Somerville Mass.

Miss Lucy J. Holmes Derry Depot New Ha

The Parks in Mt. Auburn will of course know of t
meeting & also Rev. J. W. Ballantine Watertown Ma

We are very sorry to learn that Mrs. Clark
still poorly. & that we may not hope to see h
at the meeting.

Ever most truly yours

C. Harding

Harding
Amherst C. Jan. 4. 1882
Recd Jan 6

Amherst Mass. May. 3rd 1882.

My dear Dr. Clark

We expect to sail from New York on the 13th of this month, & we have arranged to leave two of our younger children in this country. Mary who is eleven years old to day will be with Miss Mary E. Salisbury in Pittsfield Mass. & John - 9 yrs old - will be in the family of Rev. George Lyman Amherst Mass. For the present I shall wish to have the allowance of $100. per year. for each of these children and I will write to Mr. Ward. perhaps in Sept of each year in reference to it. These last days are taxing, & yet they are full of mercies as all the previous days of our stay in America have been, and we look back only with gratitude on what we have received of Christian sympathy, from all with whom we have been associated. - My health seems fully restored, though I have somewhat less of strength than I had twelve years ago. So much however as remains, shall all be given to the good cause. & thankfully given. I attended interesting meetings not long ago at Adams-

North Adams & Williamstown with our Ruby. There is every reason to hope that Katie & Ruby will do good service at Ahmednagar.

Mrs. Harding & Ruby are absent this afternoon, otherwise they would join me in kindest Christian love to you & to all the dear people with you.

Ever Most truly Yours.

C. Harding.

Amherst Aug 13, 1882

Sholapur Aug. 27th 1882.

My dear Dr. Clark

Since returning to India I have spent two or three days in Ahmednagar, meeting the brethren there, & seeing something of their work; & last week I was by invitation in Bombay to help ordain the new pastor there; and it occurs to me that I ought to write you a newsy letter, as to appearances & impressions, as they strike me now. The teachers in the Ahmednagar district were all to-gether for their yearly examinations when I was there. They seemed to be men of more weight of character than appeared in our teachers of past years. although nearly all are still from the lowest caste. But they are better educated than formerly & possibly Christianity is as well ~~educated~~ recommended by them as it could be by men of higher caste. We will at least hope this is true until God gives us more men of high social standing. The Theol-

Class appeared very well. The present class was formed after I left & I know most of them personally. They are now in their second year, & their improvement is very marked. Mr. R. A. Hume seems in good health & is doing admirably in his work I should think. His sister seems very well, & is evidently a comfort to him & to the children, & I think she is happy in her new position & duties. Mr. Smith has started bravely with his school & if he has health it will be a success. It is a new departure for our Mission, & yet with the change that has come over the native community since 1854 — the better understanding of our work & message, & the more friendly feeling that now exists towards us. it is quite probable that there is a call & a place for school work now which did not exist 25 years ago.

¶ "Mr. Smith has about 30 young men, mostly Hindus, with a few Mahomedans & Parsees. It is a live school &

appeared remarkably well. It ought to be a real help to us in reaching a class which have hitherto been mostly beyond our influence; & gradually the christian Community will share in the advantages of the school. I think Mr. & Mrs. Smith have now very cordial relations ~~now~~ with the other missionaries, & they seemed to me in all respects first class people.

The Bombay Church has probably done the best it could do, in the circumstances. The pastor just ordained is the most able man who has left the Theol. Seminary thus far. Yet he is from the Mahar Caste & has not a good knowledge of English. But all hope & expect that he will do well.

I was not in Bombay long enough to form an opinion of our work there as a whole. The new school house is more nearly perfect, for its purpose than any similar building I have seen in India. It is very neat & very Convenient — a charming set of rooms

& furniture for school work. And I must confess to a more hopeful feeling that the school will yet become an efficient missionary agency. What I have feared all the time is, that in the presence of the large & well manned missionary Institutions in Bombay, this school would remain only a sort of primary school for children, say under 12 years old, excepting as it is made a boarding school & the children are supported, & even then if they can obtain as much pecuniary aid in the larger Institutions, they will in most cases go there. Both Mr. & Mrs. Hume are working hard, & it would I presume be difficult to find two persons that could do better in just that line of work than they are doing. But it is an expensive experiment & it will require several more years, in order to show & what the outcome will be.

Mr. Abbott is devoting much time to the study of the language, & is likely to become one of our best Marathi scholars. He appears very well, though possibly a bit too quiet for city work.

" The prospects in the Sholapur field are hopeful in every direction There has been a steady increase of interest during the last two years. What impresses me most is the number of Hindus that come into our Sabbath services. Yesterday I counted forty 40. such natives, sitting in the congregation & listening quietly to the sermon. Some of these are quite regular in their attendance, & it seems to be an interest in the truth that brings them there".

Miss Katie Fairbank is with her father & our Ruby is with us. They are both making good progress in the language & are in good health.

When at Nagar I had a talk with the missionaries there in regard to house accommodations for these young ladies. For a time the best arrangement that can be made seems to be to have them occupy a portion of the

Bissells house & board with them. They can have two rooms there & a portion of the viranda which is partitioned off. It is well enough as a temporary arrangement, yet they cannot keep house there & only one of the rooms is what we should wish, for such a purpose. As it seems likely that the girls' school at Nagar will hereafter be superintended by unmarried ladies from America, I presume it will be thought best, both here & at home, to make a more permanent arrangement for the teachers of that school. And since we shall need at least three missionaries to carry on the work we now have in Nagar & since we have there only three houses it looks as though we should have either to build another house, or to hire one, for one of the mission families. The house where Mr. R. A. Hume lives is in ~~one of~~ the school yard & is as to location, the best place for those who have charge of that school, & it seems now as if that might be the place for them.

But we shall have the matter up for discussion at the October meeting & you will probably hear further about it then. The young ladies are looking forward with pleasure to their work.

We are all well. My own health is quite as good as it was any time when we were in America & I seem to be gaining in nerve power, so that I hope for a good many more years of service here if the Lord will. The work seems to me unspeakably precious.

All join me in kindest Christian love to you & to all your associates at the Mission House.

Ever Aff^ly Yours
C. Harding.

We hope Mrs. Clark has quite recovered her health ere this.

Charles Harding.

Sholapur. Aug 27. 1882

Recd. Oct. 2

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Sholapor Jany 23rd 1883.

My dear Dr. Clark

The new year opens with some unusual encouragement. We made a tour to Barsi not long ago, when two interesting converts were baptized. During our stay there, Mrs. Harding visited a native woman, of whom we had several times heard, & whose case had excited our sympathy. It seemed very doubtful if anything could be done for her, & very likely an attempt to visit her home would be met by a rebuff. But, several visits were made, & the way was prepared for our preacher's wife, residing there, to follow up the work. And now the preacher writes that the woman is making rapid progress & has determined to receive Christ as her Savior. He writes, "Mrs Harding has planted, my wife has watered, & God has given the increase & to His name be the praise".

"We observed the week of prayer here, & the interest ~~con~~ increased so much, day by day, that it was decided to continue the meetings the following week. It was very evident that the Holy Spirit was with us. & some we hope began the new life during those two weeks. & others of whose sincerity we had reason to doubt, have been brought to a clearer decision. It reminds us very pleasantly of similar scenes that we were permitted to witness just one year ago in the dear home land. It is the same gospel of salvation, the same divine Spirit; & the same blessed experience when the soul submits to Christ.

"In our tour last month we were delighted to see old Mesoba again, the pastor at Natwad. He seldom speaks to us, of his former life, but the people there know well how far he wandered in sin. This ~~t~~ time we asked him to relate to us more at length what his life had been. He has had a wonderful experience. For years a thief & a robber - very intemperate also - a notorious character; yet now wholly changed. He received a New Testament ten years ago, a year before he was baptized, & from reading that book he decided that intemperance was a sin. & he gave up the habit of drinking at once & finally, though no one had ever spoken to him on the subject.

"The entrance of thy words giveth light,
It giveth understanding unto the simple".

This dear man is now 72 years old & is nearly blind. He has no fear of death, & is waiting cheerfully for the end. Yet he says "I want to spend the little time that is left in preaching this gospel to others", & he rejoices in the work. He loves to tell the story, because he knows 'tis true, & others willingly listen to him, because in his own life they see a proof of the message he brings."

We have been very sorry to learn that illness has taken you away from your home & work for a season, but we hope you are quite restored to health before now. My own health is very good now & Mrs. Harding is quite well.

As Ever Most Truly Yours

C. Harding.

Sholapoor, Jan. 2$\overset{0}{3}$, '83.

Rec'd Feb. 27.

Sholapur Mar. 19th 1883.

My dear Dr. Clark

Your very kind letter of Jan. 22nd came duly to hand. I wrote you of our work about the same date as your letter.

In reference to our health I can speak more confidently now than I could then even. For the last three months I have been better than I was any time while we were in America & am now apparently as well as I was six years ago, before I had the fever that sent me home. Mrs. Harding did rather too much while we were in tents in Dec. & suffered for a month from neuralgia but she is quite well now & has not at any time been laid aside from work. There is so much to be done that we are often tempted to curtail hours of sleep & to go beyond our strength, but we try & shall try to be conscious in all these things & if the Lord will, we may reasonably hope for another 8 or 10 years of steady work here. Mrs. Gates went to the Hills in October & expects to remain till the early part of June. This seemed the wisest course for her, & we all hope she may come back with restored health. It is a great trial to her to be away from her work so long & Mrs Harding has of course much more to do because of her absence.

The work of the women of our mission is increasing in extent & importance year by year. There has been a great change in regard to this during the last five years.

One reason why we have both improved in health, is doubtless the inspiration that comes from our work. The church at Watwad in the Mogalai is very dear to us, & it is a great joy to labor in that region. The Christians are all hitherto, from the Mangs, & some of them were notoriously wicked before their conversion & of course the change of conduct is very marked. It is most interesting to watch the effect of this new element in a Hindu village. The officials in this ~~&~~ Native State, are generally very corrupt. Bribery & extortion are openly practiced. & some who are now

Christians used to be helpers or accomplices with these officials. ~~and~~ It is ~~now~~ frequently very awkward & inconvenient to have these honest men about. The presence of ~~of~~ an upright man, even though he be of the lowest caste, is a restraint & a moral helper to the whole village. & the Christians are rapidly gaining the respect of all classes. —— With their honest principles & habits, they begin to see that they must have other employments, & I spent considerable time on a recent tour in advising with them about what could be done. The result was that four or five families are to begin at once the work of farming on an independent footing. & several have already begun the work of sheep raising. This is the beginning, & if these succeed, others will follow in their track. All this seems to me but the natural outgrowth of a changed moral nature.

The work in & about Sholapur is progressing steadily. A young Brahman 23 years old, was baptized here in Feb. He is doing very well & there are other candidates for baptism. In the outlying villages there are four or five places where the people are anxious for Christian teachers, & where many seem truly interested in the truth. Yet in the midst of such openings there comes the mandate from the Prudential Committee to reduce even our present scale of work in this direction! Often we say to ourselves "Surely the Christian people at home would not permit these reductions if they realized what golden opportunities must thereby be neglected."

Ever most truly Yours

C. Harding

Sholapur, March 19, 1883.
Rec'd Apr. 21. & Ans'd

Sholapur, March 19, 1883. Rec'd Apr. 21. Ans'd

My dear Dr Clark

Here is a little story which possibly may be ~~t~~ utilized on your floor or the one below you. Our George in praying for these priests the night after this occurrence said in his prayer. "They are just like Ahab & Jezabel".

The Hymn referred to, is rather long, if all the verses are used, but it is a pity that our children at home have from the first been deprived of the objective effect of the Hymn. Our children repeat the last verses with deep feeling.

Very Sincerely Yours

C Harding.

Sholapur
Mar. 22. 1883.

Sholapoor, March 22,^{0}/83.

Rec'd Apr. 21.

Dr. N. G. Clark.

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Sholapur July 30: 1883.

My dear Dr. Clark

The last mail brought a letter from Dr. Means with an appropriation of Rs 8.000 for a new house at Ahmednagar. When I wrote from Mahableshwar asking for this, we had as it seemed, virtually secured a site for the house, but we have not obtained it. However there is another site nearly as good. & I will go to Nagar in a few days to consult with the Brethren about it. & most likely we shall go on with the work.

I hope you have got safely back from your Eastern trip. & I confidently expect that all the Missions will profit by the experiences of these Missions in Turkey. And yet, while human nature remains as it is 'offences' more or less serious will come, whatever our policy or practice may be. Several of our Missionaries at Nagar have been ill of late but are better now. We here are are all well.

Ever most truly yours C. Harding.

Sholapur, July 30, 1883.
Rec'd Sept. 3.

Sholapur Aug. 13. 1883

My dear Dr. Alden

I was very thankful to get your letter of June 29th. It came last week. I had previously heard from Mr. Trowbridge about Miss Cheetham's donation. & I wrote to her at once in acknowledgement. We are very glad of this help just now. and the fact that she, & so many others are remembering us in their prayers as well as contributions, is a constant encouragement to us.

We are glad to know that you are safely home again. & we hope your visit to Turkey will result in great good.

All well at this station & at the others as far as we know.

Our kindest remembrance to Dr. Clark & to you all

Very Truly Yours
C. Harding

Sholapûr, Aug. 13, 1883.

Rec'd Sep. 17.

Dr Clark ✓

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Report of the Examination of the Theological Seminary, Ahmednagar. Oct. 1883.

by Rev.s C. Harding, J. E. Abbott, and Anaji Kshirasagar.

~~Pastor Anaji,~~ ~~Rev. J. E. Abbott & myself~~ We examined the two classes of the Seminary Oct. 22nd & 23rd. The Seniors were examined on the first books of the Old Test. & on a portion of Daniel; and the Juniors on the Introduction to the New Test. & on the Gospel of Matthew. Both classes were examined on the text book "Philosophy of the plan of salvation"; & also on Astronomy, & on the Geography of Palestine. Three or four students who understand English well, have made a beginning in Chemistry, using an English text book, & nearly all have paid some attention to English.

The Senior class showed decided improvement in mental discipline & in ability to express what they knew. The Junior class having been a shorter time under instruction did not appear so well. yet all the examinations were creditably sustained, if we except the beginners in English.

In Old Test. exegesis, the answers were given with promptness & vigor, showing thorough work, on the part both of instructors & students. Astronomy had evidently been studied with interest & the main principles of the science had been mastered. We were especially gratified with the examination on the Geography of Palestine, taken in connection with historical incidents & facts of the Bible. This study must give a definiteness & vividness to Biblical history which will be valuable to the students." All the young men seemed sincere & bent on making the most of their opportunities. And the methods of instruction, especially in Biblical study, seemed to us, admirably adapted to the needs & circumstances of the students as a preparation for their future work. On the whole the progress & development of the students is most gratifying, & the Seminary seems to be doing all that the most sanguine of us had expected from it."

C. Harding.

Oct. 1883.

J E Abbott

आनाजी भागोबा क्षीरसागर

Sholapur Nov. 7. 1883.

My dear Dr. Clark

Last year after returning from Nagar I wrote you a newsy letter. I am tempted to do the same this year. I was appointed one of the examiners of the Normal School & also of the Theol. Seminary, & so spent a longer time than usual there. Bro. R. A. Hume will send you what I wrote about the Seminary. It is wonderful what Christianity, or rather Christ, does for men. Most of the students are from the lowest castes. & now several of them would pass for Brahmins where they were not known, & all are greatly changed in appearance & speech. About twenty-five years ago I saw a recently converted Mang at one of our stations. He seemed the lowest of the low, & yet his they - is, now one of the strongest & so far as promising men of the Seminary; His sharply cut features are but a reminder of his clear & active mind. Speaking of faces

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Bro. R. A. Hume is doing a good work. Taking him all in all I think he is the most useful man among us. His sister Sarah takes good care of the children. & looks after many other things so that the broth [illegible] quite free to give all his thou [illegible] th to his work. Miss Sarah Hume is [illegible] thin, but is pretty well. & is ~~g~~ doin [illegible] much more than any of us expected she would be able to do.

An hour or two daily is given to teaching in Mr. Smith's School, besides all her other work. Dr. Bissell seems in his usual health. not robust. but working on evenly & always doing good. Dr. Fairbank has aged a good deal. It is quite likely his daughter's coming out saved him to the work. for it is said that he has new life since her coming. He is not broken down at all. & he can probably walk farther than any other one in the Mission. But he is subject to a kind of colic every now & then. & while he may work on for many years, it would not be strange if he was taken away suddenly.

Mr. Smith's School is growing on his hands & prospering. Both he & Mrs. Smith are excellent teachers & are enthusiastic in the work. They are neither of them robust & we cannot but fear for their health. for if they should fail it would be impossible for us with our present force to manage the school properly. Most of us would neither be able or willing to take just such a position

& yet it is evidently just the place for the Smiths. & if they are spared the school may become a great help to our work. —— Two or three years ago Mr. Smith was not quite in harmony with the mission. & I was unable to give you any sufficient reason for it when at home. They are now on very good terms with most & on good terms with all. & I trust this will continue. He was dyspeptic the first year. & she was not well. their preconceptions of the work & people were not quite accurate. & I fancy they had not been accustomed to intimate relations with others such as we so often have in New England & elsewhere. - and thus being rather reticent, & also being accustomed to speak rather sharply of persons, when things didnt go right, the strings got out of tune. There, I hope I havent done them injustice & I hope you will not think any the less of them for what I have written. For without question they are both excellent Christians & excellent missionaries & I see no reason why they may not now & here after work quite in harmony with the mission. — It is quite evident that Miss Katie & Ruby have done much to bring the Smiths into harmony with the other families there. These two girls are doing well in all respects. Next week they will assume the responsibility of the school. & I am sure they will do well. I could see when in Nagar that the school girls were already very much drawn to them. Possibly it will be news to you that our Ruby has recently become engaged to Henry Fairbank now in Yale Seminary. I am sure you will be glad of this. as all are who know the two.

Our Mary in Pittsfield wrote us of your visit there & of your daughter in that school. Miss Salisbury is doing admirably for our Mary & Lizzie F. & who knows but some day they will come to take the places of Katie & Ruby. — Mr. & Mrs. Gates are very well & are full of work. I know not what we should do if they were obliged to leave. — I intended to write something about a farewell, that the school-girls gave to Mrs. Bissell in Nagar, & will do so at another time if possible. Several educated men are to come to me to-night for Bible study. Two such have declared their purpose to me this week, to become Christians, but whether this purpose carries the heart with it or not, I cannot say yet.

We are all well as usual. I am better than I was any time when last at home, but I cannot bear exposure as I used to. Mrs. H. is almost uniformly well.

Kindly give the enclosed to Mr. Ward.

Mrs Harding joins me in affectionate salutations to all at the Mission Rooms.

Ever truly Yours

C. Harding.

Sholapur, Nov. 7-1883. Use
Rec'd Dec. 10. 1-45

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Mahableshwar Apr. 9. 1884.

My dear Dr. Clark

Your letter of Nov 2nd found us 60 miles from home on a tour. I wrote you in the early part of Nov. in regard to some matters which I hoped would be of interest to you. Our Report will go to you this week or next & that will give you a good idea of our work as a whole. The Report seems to me unusually interesting. Mr. E. S. Hume however says he would strike out if he could, much that he wrote about the new mission undertaken by the Bombay Church. The missionary Imam Baksh has returned to Bombay & seems unable to give any good reason for his coming back. Mr Hume will I presume write you about it. An older man may perhaps be found to carry on the work. -

This news has come forward
at second hand & been borne
been happily referred to it

You ask about my health & that of Mrs. Harding. The Atlantic voyage came pretty near upsetting me. but I improved somewhat, beyond England. though I was hardly as well when we reached Bombay as I was when we left New York. But it was for me a good time to reach India (July 3rd) & during the next cold season in touring I became better than I had been for a long time; & for the past year I have had uniformly good health. I am not quite so robust as I was ten years ago, but it seems now that I may be able to hold on a good many years. I wish you would remember me very kindly to Dr. Denny. He looked me over very faithfully & it seems to me now that what he said & did were very judicious. Mrs. Harding is decidedly better in health now, than she was two years ago, & she does a large amount of work. she is very well. The Lord Jesus, whom we serve, only knows how much we love the work. There is steady progress in the Sholapur district. The interest is widespread & this makes it difficult even for two of us to overtake the work.

I have been hoping for a long time for a greater & more manifest work of the Holy Spirit among our people.

& for the past few months this has been a constant burden upon my heart. I hope none of our friends at home are forgetting to pray for us.- There are a good many in our field & some of them prominent men. who are fully convinced of their duty. & who are awakened evidently by the Holy Spirit. and yet they do not take up the cross & follow Christ. My good Mother - now for many years in heaven used to have a motto. "Keep on praying." & perhaps this is as good as anything for us now.

We came to this Sanitarium last week & Katie Fairbank & Ruby are with us. The latter are well. & enjoy their work. & are succeeding as well thus far as any of us expected they would. But they were both somewhat worn at the close of the term. & it was well that they could come here. Our Ruby is very happy in her prospects. & if just the right one could come out say one year hence & thus be prepared to take her place in 1886. when she enters another sphere. with Henry Fairbank it would be well. — —

We shall meet a month hence to make estimates for 1885. but I am quite sure that $31.000, the sum on which we are to base our regular estimates, will leave much important work unprovided for.

It was very pleasant to receive the $60. from Miss Salisbury's school. It will help us here + it will help them too. — Mr. Smith was ill near the close of his term + was obliged to come. He is better now, + is up here but we cannot but feel anxious for him. Mrs. Bissell too has not been well of late. I wish we might hope for ~~two or~~ three young men to reinforce us at once. They will surely be needed as soon as they are able to do any thing.

With christian love

Ever truly Yours

C. Harding.

Mahableshwar, Apr 9. 1884.
Rec'd May 10.

Sholapur July 16th 1884.

My dear Dr. Clark

Your letter of June 11th to ~~our~~ Sec'y Dr. Bissell has just come to me. & before sending it on to the next one, I will write just a word in reference to your suggestions. I do not think the spiritual results of 1883 were less here, than they had been for several years previous. while it is quite true that they were less than we had reason to expect. We ought to look for an increase of spiritual power year by year & there is, probably. Yet we have nothing like what we read of in Turkey & in Japan. But I am sorry to say our mission is not singular in this respect. It is just the same in Madura & in the other missions in Southern India. And in a Report just at hand from Dr. Philips of the Free Baptist Mission in Bengal there is the same state of things there. There is progress. there is spiritual life. there are many, more or less awakened, by the truth. & many seem to come just to the deciding point & then turn back. It seems as if a little higher tide would bring them over the bar, but the higher tide does not come. And those who do get into the Kingdom seem to crawl in or stumble in.

I think we shall all welcome your suggestion, about setting apart some portion of each day or week, for private & special study of the scriptures, in relation to our own spiritual life, & habits of work & style of preaching. We are in constant danger, especially in our station work, of losing sight of the one end & aim of all our work. On our tours frequently, it is otherwise, & this, to most of us, makes our touring season the most delightful portion of the year.

I have been reading Pauls Epistles of late. It is wonderful how these letters touch our work at every point. My last sermon was from 1. Cor. 1:30. I had a large Hindu audience. & there was fixed attention, & some were a good deal moved. I expected some callers on Sunday evening, as the result, but none came.

We look for Mr. Arthur Bissell & wife next week, Friday or Saturday 25th or 26th in Bombay. & they will have a hearty welcome from all.

Your letter of Apr. 11th (I think it was) came duly to hand. I had written you not long before ~~the~~ yours came. We are all in our usual health. though just now we are depressed by serious charges against some members of the Church. We read the Herald & Day Spring with great interest. Kindly give my salutations to Dr. Smith who must be with you now. We are thankful that he consented to come to your help

yours. Ever Most Truly Yours C. Harding.

Sholapur July 16.

Rec'd Aug 23.

Sholapur Aug. 25. 1884.

My dear Dr. Clark

I see occasional references in the home papers to Mr. (now Bishop) Wm Taylor's Self-supporting work in India As far as this work is carried on among Europeans & Eurasians it is probably self-supporting though even that work is aided by Europeans not connected with that Church. But the work among the natives is in no true sense self-supporting. European gentlemen give regularly & liberally for the support of this work & the missionaries to some extent are engaged in secular work & in this way they are supported. One of the Methodist brethren told me last week that Genl Phayr gave them Rs 160 per month, & this goes regularly to three or four of their number. Other good men in Government service give regularly to them. The chief difference between them & other missionaries is, they have their support from benevolent people in this country, instead of receiving it from home, and they have less accountability than others have in the use of what they receive. While at the # same time it must be said that most of them live very simply, & having married, (Europeans or Eurasians) wives, born in this country, they are able to live more cheaply than many others.

Very little progress had as yet been made by the Methodists, in the matter of self-support among the natives in this part of India.

I presume you understand this, but as I have recently met several of Mr. Taylor's men who gave me definite information, & who expressed the fear (one of them) that Mr. Taylors statements at home might be misleading, I thought I would send you this note upon the subject.

I had the great pleasure of spending two hours with Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Bissell on their way to Nagar last Friday. They seem well. & we are all thankful for their Coming.

We are all as usual at this Station. though the Gates are not very strong & we begin to dread the time when they must have a change to America. yet we trust they will be able to hold on several years longer.

Mrs. Harding joins me in Kindest Christian regards to you.

Very Truly Yours

C. Harding.

Sholapoor, Aug. 25, 1884.
Rec'd Sept. 27.

Mr Taylor's
self-supporting m

Sholapur. Sep. 14. 1885.

My dear Dr. Clark

I owe you an apology for neglect in writing you. The real reason has been that there was nothing specially new to write. We have had good health & are busy at work all the time; & there is progress in every department of the work yet there is nothing remarkable, & I fancied that if I wrote you a letter it would be just about what I have written twenty times before. and "to write the same things" is rather grievous "to me". & perhaps is not safe for you. We do however write often to other parties in America & this I trust tells somewhat upon the good Cause. Your letters have been helpful to us. Especially that one in which you urged us. not to employ useless men. & not to Continue in unfruitful fields. We have dropped one eminently useless preacher. He came from Nagar six years ago when I was in America. He was not of much use there & the brethren charitably thought he might do better in a new field & Bro. Gates needed some one very much here. He is now in secular work where he ought to have been ten years ago.

In regard to giving up unfruitful places, it is often difficult to decide what should be done. There is a village six miles East of Sholapur where we had a school twenty years ago. There were two Converts during the first three years. One of these is now Pastor of our Church in Sholapur, & the other is Pastor of the Church, Connected with the Free Church of Scotland, in Bombay. For years after these two Conversions there was little progress at Kumbhari (the village in question) & much opposition. About ten years ago there were three or four more baptisms. One of these died & the others moved away, leaving no Christians there & the opposition continued. At the beginning of 1884 there seemed to be a little softening & a half dozen men appeared to be "almost persuaded."

Last January we spent two weeks at that village & one young woman asked for baptism. She had been to Sholapur for medical treatment & had thus come under the direct influence of Mrs. Harding for two months. & during the whole year we had seen her occasionally. The husband of this woman told me & also the native Pastor that he would not make any opposition to his wife's baptism, if she wished it. And yet a few hours after her baptism he became exceedingly enraged about it, & appeared like a mad-man. He declared he would have nothing more to do with his wife. & she fled in terror from her house to our tent. It seemed to me very much like domoniacal possession. & for a time nearly all were turned against us. However, a more recent conversion there has made a deep impression on the people & has encouraged us much.

"One morning, last month a young man there told his friends that he had decided to become a Christian. They forcibly prevented his coming to us that day, but the next day he came, & asked for baptism. He said he had been deeply impressed by what he heard at one of our evening meetings last January at his village, but he told no one of it. Several months later a preacher spent a week or two at Khambbari, & again he was awakened but he told no one. A month ago, in connection with a Hindu festival, he went at night to a meeting to hear one of the popular sacred books read. Some portions of this were very impure & he said to himself, "How utterly different this is from the Bible!" and then his old convictions returned. He could not sleep that night & the following day he could not eat, and the next night & the next day his experiences was the same. The third night he with others lay down in the public Rest House, as usual. Those about him soon went to sleep, but his troubled & anxious mind could not rest.

& so he lay awake till two or three oclock. Then all at once a man lying near him exclaimed, (in his sleep probably), "It is true; the Religion is true". It seemed like a voice from heaven to the young man, & his decision was at once made, "I will henceforth follow Christ". He has not wavered since. He told the people in the morning that he had had a vision, and who can say that he had not? Job. 33: 14-17. We went to the village two weeks later for the purpose of baptizing Satwā. But as we were beginning the service his older brother & several others set upon him & beat him & dragged him him away, and I am sorry to say that most of the 100 people present seemed in sympathy with the ruthless opposition. Such bitter hatred if not excited directly by Satan, must have been quite in accord with his wishes. Of course all knew that I could get policemen to prevent the recurrence of such a disturbance, but it seemed best not to ask for their help; & the next Sunday. Satwa came to Sholapur & was baptized in our Church, boldly yet humbly confessing that Christ is his Lord & Savior. Satwa's friends have threatened all sorts of persecutions, but I presume now that he is baptized, he will not be seriously molested. — The people have sent a request that we let them alone now; They do not wish to hear anything farther from us. After the first conversions 18 years ago, I remember this same request came to us. and it has been more than once repeated. & yet two men at least have recently assured Satwa, that they will soon follow him. Very likely, within five years there may be a native Church at Kumbhari.

"Just now, as in years past at this season, we are having a course of Lectures, for the Educated men of Sholapur. The attendence is good & a kindly spirit is manifested.

On the whole I think the hostility of the educated classes to Christianity, is gradually diminishing, yet it exists all but universally & is very strong."

For the last two years I have spent some time in studying native music, with a view of publishing something that will be helpful to all the Marathi speaking Christians. I have written out a good many native tunes & harmonized some of them, & have adapted tunes to Hymns that will I hope make them more extensively useful. It will be safe to say that my book will be the very best of the kind ever published. For nothing just like it has ever appeared in this part of India! I have taken up this work as a matter of conscience, though with the approval of the Mission. The book will be out in December I hope.

I was much struck with the topic for Prayer suggested in the August Herald. This has been much in our thoughts of late, for we may be left alone next year with all this wide field & growing work upon our hands.— Mr. Gates has much encouragement in his field West of Sholapur. He has baptized 16. adults recently.

By the way if Mr. & Mrs. Gates go to America next year, we shall probably wish to send our son George with them. He is now ten years old. Kindly write me if we have permission to send him, at the expense of the Board.—

With our kindest Christian regards. Very Truly Yours
C. Harding.

Sholapur Sept 14. '85.
Rec'd Oct 19.

Sholapur Feb. 8. 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark

Your favor of Oct. 31st came duly to hand, & a short time previous I had a kind note from Dr. Alden also, in regard to our son's going home with Mr. & Mrs. Gates, Thank you for your suggestions about the Auburndale Home. We have heard through several others that the present management is very satisfactory, & were no other place provided we should be very thankful to send our George there. But Mr. & Mrs. Greenwood seem quite willing to receive him, & as the older brother is there, the two wish to be together, It is a comfort however for us to know that there is such a place, where we might send a child, or where a child might go, in case other arrangements at home failed. We feel & have good reason to feel a special interest in that Home. & it is very likely we shall again have one or more (children) there.

We are all sad at the thought of losing Dr. Bissell even temporarily from his post. And we hope he may soon be able to return. And this ~~remark~~ name leads me to make one remark about A. D. Bissell. What has transpired has been a great trial to us all, & I am sure it has been such to you at the Missionary Rooms. But I do not see what other course you could take. A man must have positive beliefs & convictions in order to work efficiently in this land. My hope is that in Christian work at home he will come on to firmer ground. The general influence of our work here is to confirm one's belief in the great Evangelical doctrines. But if one is unsettled at the outset, there is perhaps less hope of recovery here than at home.

Our need of new men in this mission is very great. When Mr. Gates goes I shall have at least twice as much work as one missionary ought to have. We are just now forming three new churches in the Western portion of this district. And that means a large amount of additional work. We have however a good man from the last Theological class, who has just come to labor among these new churches, & the Pastor of the Sholapur Church is a great help & comfort to us. Mrs. Harding & I have on the whole very good health, & we are thankful for the expansion of the work here. But if in these circumstances we inadvertantly go beyond our strength, no-one should think it strange.

We have just had a visit of three days from Miss Hillis, formerly of the Ceylon Mission. You at the Rooms know her well. She is laboring 200 miles East of us in connection with the Free Baptist Mission. She is a lovely Christian & one cannot but regret that she could not remain in her former work. A morbid action of the mind in her case, as in Miss. Sisson's, seems to have turned her aside.

I cannot tell you how thankful I wa that you were able this year to appropriate to our Mission all that we had asked for. Every cent of it was needed at our Station, & I presume the same is true of the other stations.

We have whooping cough just now in both our families, & possibly Mr. & Mrs. Gates will not be able to leave March 6th as they had planned & d ~~ox~~. But I presume Dr. Bissell will fail them, & the Smiths of Ceylon go then.

With our kind remembrance to all at the Missionary Rooms.

Very truly yours
C. Harding.

Rev. C. Harding,
Sholapur, Feb. 8, 1886,
Rec'd Mar. 15.

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Mahableshwar May 13. 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark

This mail will take to you a Resolution from the Mission in regard to Mr & Mrs. Sibley, & we all hope that the information which you obtain at home concerning them, may be so satisfactory that the Committee will see fit to appoint them. We are all much pleased with the Sibleys. They are simple in their habits, kindly in disposition, & earnestly consecrated to the Lord's work. Mr. Sibley is not robust & probably never will be; but from the Doctor's report of him, it is evident that he may have fairly good health & live to a good old age. He is 39 years old. Mrs. Sibley is perhaps 8 or 10 years younger, & evidently has excellent health. & she seems every way well fitted to labor here.

The Brethren in Bombay have been hoping that the Sibleys would go to Lalitpur; but it seems to most of us inexpedient to send a missionary there. It is far away

The few converts there are rather widely scattered - they are very poor, & of the lowest of the low Castes. Lalatpur would be the place of residence, but the nearest native Christians from there, are 15 miles away, & there are no good roads among the villages. It seems to most of us much better to wait till a suitable native preacher can be found to go there, & let him be the missionary of the Bombay Church.

The mission think that the Sibleys had better return with us to Sholapur & study the language for the present. Until recently they have used the Hindustani language, but they have been studying the Marathi for several months, & if they are appointed by the Board they will be ready for some work, after our October meeting. Mr. Sibleys means of support failed near the close of last year, & since then they have had a very inadequate income. The last month he borrowed from a friend Rs100. & this is the extent of his indebtedness I believe. But if they are accepted by the Board

I think it would be as well to let their appointment date from June 1st And besides this I would make a grant for outfit for they have very little aside from their clothing. They are both apparently very conscientious in regard to expenses & it might be as well to let the mission in consultation with them decide upon the amount of outfit to be given them.

One other item I wish to refer to. Your last letter informed us that we might expect $35.000 from the Board in 1887 & that our estimates should be made out upon this basis - & that the Rupee should be reckoned at 40 cents. Our Bills of Exchange for the first half of this year will bring us about 33 per cent premium & at this rate the rupee is worth only about 37 cents. & ~~at this rate~~ the $35.000 would bring more than Rs 7.000 above what we get by reckoning the rupee at 40 cents. The present prospects are that silver will be still cheaper. We will however make our estimates reckoning the rupee at 40 cents & if exchange remains about the same. you will of course have no difficulty in granting our contingent estimates especially if we do not go beyond what the $35.000 are really worth in rupees. ~~But~~ We are not yet through with our regular estimates but I hope we shall not need to go above what we are allowed calling the rupee worth 40 Cents. We are in the midst of our Mission Meeting & I have no more time to write. All well as usual.-

Ever most truly Yours
C. Harding.

Rev. C. Harding.
Mahablechwa, May 13/86,
Rec'd June 14.

Sholapur June 4th 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark

I have had several letters of late from Bro. Winsor urging me to pay a part of the second $1.000 for the Industrial School. In Oct. (22) 1884 you wrote "he (Mr W.) was encouraged to expect another $1.000 hereafter, should his work be satisfactory to the Committee & should the mission approve of the same". Nothing more definite regarding this has come from you, as far as I know. & Mr. Ward has not referred to the second $1,000. So I have no authority as yet to pay this sum. You will have noticed our 18th Resolution passed at our recent May meeting "That we approve of Bro. Winsor's asking the Prudential Committee for the second one thousand dollars referred to in Dr. Clark's letters &c";

I hope Bro. Winsor has kept you informed as to the state & needs of the School, so that the Committee will be able to act at once on the question of granting the second one-thousand.

I hope you will not overlook the 21st Resolution which approves of asking Rs 700. in the Contingent Estimates for 1887. for two buildings in this district. These buildings are for the field that Bro. Gates has had charge of & they are greatly needed. The work in its present stage cannot be properly looked after, unless native agents are located in the field; & as we cannot rent suitable houses there, we have to build. I went out on the Railway 30 miles yesterday, & then walked 3½ miles in the hot sun, & after preaching & other services lasting two hours I walked back to the Railway at 2 P.M. The Thermometer must have been about 93° and this is the third excursion of a similar kind that I have had during the last few days. The Sibleys are busy at their studies & are very well, they will I think be valuable missionaries. — I have to thank you for two letters, one of March 3rd & the second reached me near the close of May. We are very thankful to get such good accounts from those who left us three months ago. Ever most truly Yours C. Harding.

Rev. C. Harding,
Sholapur, June 4, 1886,
Rec'd July 19.

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Sholapur June 28. 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark

In our mission meeting last month we passed Resolution 24th as follows. "That we approve of Bro. E. S. Hume asking the Prudential Committee to allow him to overdraw on his last six months account to the amount of Rs 2533.13.1 with the expectation that excepting the deficiency on account of the Dnyanodaya this ~~deficiency~~ will be made up by the end of the year".

I had supposed that Dr. Fairbank would write you in regard to the excess of expenditure for the Dnyanodaya. but I find that he was depending upon me to write. The amount overcharged was Rs 476. 2. Of this. Rs 150. ought apparently to have been charged under another head. It was also represented to us that Mr. Hume had made the estimates for the Dnyanodaya in 1885 about Rs 200. less than usual. My impression is that he expected to obtain this from some other source & failed.

Messrs Abbott, Ballantine & myself were appointed a Committee to examine the accounts of the Dnyanodaya, in regard to this excess of expenditure, as all the accounts were not before us, we could not tell exactly how the overcharge became necessary, but it seems certain that for the two papers - the Dnyanodaya & Balbodh Mewa - four hundred & ~~seventy~~ seventy six rupees & two annas, had been expended in excess of the appropriations & this is a part of the amount overdrawn & charged against Mr. Hume in his last account. The Mission hope that the Prudential Committee will make a special grant of Rs 476.2.0 to cover this over expenditure, for the Dnyanodaya & Balbodh Mewa.

On referring to the last Balance Sheet of the Mission Treasurer, I see that the real amount overdrawn by Mr. E. S. Hume is Rs 2.240.10.4 & not 2533.13.1 as stated in the Resolution. Kindly note this when you take action on the Resolution.

I send by this mail two Copies of a new Hymn & Tune Book that I have recently published. Kindly send one of these to Mrs. Gates in Deerfield Mass. The book has been well received & is likely to be useful.

With kindest christian regards

Very truly yours

C. Harding.

Rev. C. Harding

Sholapur, June 28-1886

Rec'd July 31

✓

Ed. Hume

Sholapur July 19. 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark:

In our May meeting the
Mission approved by Resolution 16. of selling
1. four small pieces of ground owned by the
Mission in Bombay. These pieces were given
to our missionaries in Bombay about 40
years ago, apparently for school purposes.
but they have not been used now for many
years, & are not likely to be again useful
to us. Hence it seems best to sell. Twelve
hundred rupees are offered for them, which
is probably as much as we are likely to
Ok get. We need permission from the Board
in order to sell this property & I shall be
thankful if you will bring the matter be-
fore the Committee & give us permission
to sell.

In the early part of this year there were
2. several cases of typhoid fever in
E. S. Hume's family & in his school; &
the Doctors examined the premises &
decided that a new drain must be
built & that the latrines must be changed.

Mr. Hume writes since our meeting that the Contractor finds that the drains may cost about double his first estimate i.e. about Rs 400. The latrines will cost Rs 325. It seems very desirable that these two changes at an expense of about Rs 725, should be made without delay. The other work of repairing the veranda is desirable but not emergent. If you have not already taken action on this matter I hope you will kindly do so at once. Ok.

One other subject I wish to refer to you for decision. We have a rule in the Constitution of our Mission which allows each missionary to "transfer appropriations if he finds it necessary, from one department of his ordinary expenses to another". In our May meeting of 1885, (I think that was the meeting, I have not the minutes with me) we asked in one of our Resolutions that "ordinary expenses" might be interpreted to mean "all excepting personal allowances & appropriations for new buildings & for printing special works". In a letter 3.

from you in July 1885 (I think it was) you mentioned in a postscript that Resolutions so & so. giving the numbers, had been approved & the above Resolution regarding the interpretation of ordinary expenses was among those approved. But I see that the Regulations for Mission & Station Treasurers page 3, regarding appropriations, do not allow of such transfers, except to a very limited extent. Kindly tell me how this is? It has seemed to me ever since your letter came that possibly you had given a wrong number in referring to our Resolutions.

4, One other matter kindred to this it seems desirable to refer to you. Our Estimates for each year are made seven or eight months before the year begins; & frequently there are changes among our Mission agents during this time. Some die, & others leave & their places are not supplied by other laborers. It happens this year, that in consequence of such changes, one Missionary has Rs 800. in his appropriations which he is not using.

How should such sums be treated. Should they lapse, or by vote of the mission can they be used for other purposes. Or can the missionary himself transfer the whole or a part of such appropriations to other missionaries for other work.

Sometimes when our Estimates have been curtailed we have been allowed to help each other in this way. But ordinarily what rule should govern us, regarding any part of our individual appropriations which for causes such as are specified above, we do not find it necessary to use? —

We have no special news here, all well. & the "former rain" is abundant. We are having extra preaching services in our Church two evenings in the week — using my new Hymn & Tune Book as an attration. The attendance is larger than we have ever had on similar occasions. We wait & pray for a divine influence to make our work fruitful in Conversions.

Ever Very Truly Yours C. Harding.

Sholapur, July 19. '86.
Rec'd Aug. 23.

Sholapur Aug. 2. 1886

My dear Dr. Clark

Three days ago I recd your telegram in regard to paying Mr. Winsor. This of course authorizes me to pay the second $1.000 for the Industrial School.

Last week your favor of June 14 was recd in regard to Mr. & Mrs. Sibley. I know not how it is, but in some way you seem to have had a wrong impression from the first, in reference to their wish to unite formally with the Mission, They apparently have had no other wish than this from the first. & we as a mission have had no other thought about it. Miss Dr. Condit has desired to receive aid from the Board. & have a certain connection with us, & yet be independent in her plans & work. & possibly because her name has been coupled with the Sibleys you have inferred that they also wish to receive an allowance from the Board.

Sholapur July 19 '86

& to labor in our Mission & yet not be full members of the Mission. But from the first they have had no other thought or wish than to be formally connected with us & be wholly identified with our plans & work on the same footing as all the rest of us. If the testimonials you have received from home about the Sibleys are satisfactory I hope you will not hesitate to appoint them as missionaries of the Board. They have been with us now two or three months & we see no reason from any cause why they are not likely to work harmoniously with the Mission. They are sensible, considerate & thoroughly consecrated to the work. They have never had any special sympathy with the peculiar views of the "Faith Mission" & they have always had sympathy with the American Board. Mr. S. is not robust & probably never will be, yet he will very likely be able to do an average amount of missionary work.

Ever most truly yrs

C. Harding.

Sholapur, Aug. 2, '86.
Rec'd Sept. 4.

Sholapur Sep 23rd 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark.

Henry Fairbank & our daughter Ruby E. were married at our house on the 16th inst. They begin their life together very hopefully, & with the determination to do a good work for Christ.
I regret to say that Mr. Sibley has been ill the past month. He had a sharp attack of dysentery at first & then a low fever. But he is slowly improving now & hopes soon to be quite well again.

Our work presses upon us from all quarters. We do what we can, & leave the rest. On the whole there is much of encouragement in all parts of the Sholapur field. A good many high caste people are interested, though none seem quite ready to take up the cross.

One date in my last to you should be corrected. Our son George reached America April 22nd & not the 20th.

Ever most truly Yours
C. Harding.

Yours of July 23. & 28 have been duly rec'd. Thank you.

C. Harding S

Recd Oct 26 '86

Sholapur Nov. 4. 1886

My dear Dr. Clark.

I have to thank you for three letters since my last to you viz of Sep 6. & 24th. & today yours of Sep. 28th. In regard to the 1st one. Mr. Sibley is now willing to wait until you find it convenient to bring up the question of his appointment. I wrote my previous letter about this at his suggestion. He was then feeling a little uneasy at the delay. He will very soon send some papers to Dr. Alden. including I hope a Doctor's certificate. His recent illness makes me less confident regarding his health. Yet both Mr. & Mrs. Sibley fully expect that he will live to a good old age & be able to work efficiently. The Mission has stationed the Sibley's at Satara. They were willing to take any place but rather preferred to go where they would be able to continue their work for some years. And as we hope Mr. Gates will return here within two years. & Mr. Bruce may leave Satara within that time, the Sibley's were inclined to go to Satara.

You will I hope, when you have time for it, refer again to the two last items in my letter of July 19th +

At our last May meeting we passed a resolutions near the close (without sufficient consideration) asking that we might receive here the gold value of whatever is appropriated for us at home, & the resolution conveyed the idea that prices were rising here so that we should need to give increased pay to our Native agents. But this is not the case. Food & clothing produced in India are, in Western India, probably no more expensive, now, than they have been for the last 15 years, & merchants tell me there is no prospect of any immediate change. although the value of the rupee is so much less than formerly as compared with gold. This state of things results partly from increased production, but especially increased facilities for transportation — new Railways &c. — Our Estimates for 1887 were about Rs 87.000 & I think this was on the supposition that $35.000 would be granted from home. - Probably $35.000 will bring here ninety one or two thousand rupees. × It is likely to be more rather than less. You informed us in a recent N.B. letter to our Secretary. that our Resolution (referred to on the opposite page). was sanctioned by the Prudential Comtee I presume however you will write us more definitely regarding this when the appropriations are made.

For about five years we have recd. our personal allowances in gold. and so far as we purchase goods from England or America. or remit money to America we need the premium on gold. But so far as our supplies come from N.B. India there seems no real necessity for so large an increase in our ~~sal~~ allowances. I brought this matter up at our recent meeting. but the brethren find it so convenient to use the extra amount that comes from the premium on gold. in extra work. that they were reluctant to make any change.

We have felt great sympathy for you at the Missionary ~~House~~ Rooms during these last few months & we are very anxious to get news of the Des Moines meeting. I hope our recent action in regard to Bro. R. A. Hume will help you somewhat. & help him too.-

I have some new plans for our work here. of which if they succeed I will write you by & by.-

Our recent meeting at Nagar was a good & helpful one.- & the prospects all along the line are hopeful. —— Do try & get a first rate man to help in the "Ahmednagar College". Bro. Smith does admirably. but the enterprize will not be on a firm basis until another man is secured. Yet five yrs hence the College may be able to go on without much help from the Board.

Mrs. Harding joins me in kindest regards to yourself & all the other Drs on your floor.

Very truly Yrs

C. Harding.

Did my two music books reach you & did you send one to Mrs. Gates?

Rec'd Dec. 6

Sholapur Dec. 29. 1886.

My dear Dr. Clark

We received last week our appropriations for 1887. amounting in all to Rs 96.783 with the intimation that we should ask nothing more for the year. We are very thankful for so much, & yet we really need a little more & when the Committee understand the merits of the case I hope they will find it possible to sanction another grant.

First. The appropriation for Mr. & Mrs Sibley is Rs 2.460. & this just suffices for Salary, Conveyance & house rent. He rents a house in Satara at Rs 30. per month. Mr. Bruce after consulting with Mr. Sibley has sent me the following additional items that he thinks will be needed.

For Pandit^{240}. & Repairing the Bhuing House$^{600.}$ =	Rs 840
Medicines & medical attendance	50
Traveling for$^{35.}$ health & on Mission$^{30.}$ Business	65.
Touring^{100} - Incidentals^{10}	110
Allowance for one more preacher	180
Total	Rs 1.245

Of course if the Bhuing House is repaired & the Sibley's live there, they will cease to pay rent in Satara. So I suppose Rs 200 with be saved & deducted from the 1245.

Secondly. In the Western part of the Sholapur field buildings for a preacher & a teacher & ~~the~~ a school are urgently needed. We asked in Contingent Estimates Rs 700 for this purpose. This sum would have gone into the regular estimates, but for look's sake I had it put into the Contingent, & it was to have the 1st place there.

The work in this Western field is in a critical state, & we cannot rent suitable houses there. I shall need & shall probably use Rs 300 more than this for these buildings, ~~but~~ & I will provide for that. But I hope the Rs 700 will be granted.

And if the Committee understand how much is gained by Exchange, I think they will be the more ready to grant these sums. The average premium on our Bills this year has been 36 %. Our ac-

counts are not yet made out for the last six months, but probably this premium will have gained for the Board from eight to ten thousand rupees, in 1886.
It is impossible to foretell the rate of Exchange for 1887, but there are now no indications that the gain for us will be less than it has been this year. And reckoning at this rate, the amount proposed as the basis of our Estimates, $35.000 would amount to Rs. 95.200 — Whereas the sum total of our regular Estimates sent home was only Rs 87.033 The additions to this are for the Sibleys, Julia Bissell, Miss Dr. Condict & the repairs at Mahableshwar, – expenses which (except the last item) would ordinarily come in addition to our regular appropriations.

So I hope the Committee will approve of these two additional grants viz,
Rs 1.045 + 700 = Rs. 1.745.

I send enclosed a lettle which I have just written to Bro. R. A. Hume.

It was an after-thought that you might like to see it. Kindly read it & forward it to him. I hope you are quite recovered from your recent illness. We are all well.

Ever Most Truly Yours

C. Harding.

Dec 28 1886

No. 1

Sholapur Mar. 10. 1887.

My dear Dr. Clark,

We have just returned from an extended tour. We are not generally out so late in the season, & the extreme heat has been oppressive at times; yet the Lord has preserved us from all evil, & we have been greatly refreshed in spirit by many tokens of his presence. The last month of our tour we were away from Post Offices; yet we found on reaching Watwad. Saturday P.M. that cart-men had brought the news of our coming & all were expecting us. The meeting Sunday morning was two miles away at Paduli. I wish the good lady at home, who gave money for that meeting house could have seen the nearly 100 christians, that crowded into that place – about 30 feet by 10. and I wish she could have heard the full chorus of voices that sang out the first hymn. "Lord let thy glorious name be praised". There were Christians from six villages present, from two to twelve miles away.

After a years absense I generally have the first meeting an informal one. A half hour was spent in singing & prayer, & then I asked six leading men, one after another, to speak of God's dealings with them the past year. One was much affected, & instead of speaking he offered prayer. All gave evidence of growth in grace. One said the love of Christ became more precious to him year by year; & his hope, as a foretaste of heaven, became brighter. I added some remarks founded on Paul's salutations in the last chapter of Romans, & another hymn & prayer filled up the two hours that we had been together. Our time while in this region was very fully occupied, & often the work continued till late at night. Hardly a day passed without some striking incident, illustrating very pleasantly the character of the people & the work going on among them. "Many villagers with whom we have had no personal acquaintance, seem to have perfect confidence in us when we meet them. & this evidently comes from the changed lives of the christians. They see the result of our teaching & hence trust us. A Hindu related to me, an incident one day, in order to show how our christians were trusted. A large meetings of Pātils, or (Head men of villages), was held at Lipani, to decide as to the identity of a man who had been absent 20. years. He returned & claimed his share in the old homestead. His brother seemed to believe that this claimant was an impostor, & hence the investigation.

Witnesses disagreed, some denying & some affirming. At last Ganpatrao Patil who has had more to do with christians than any other, said "Let us call Nursu the christian. He will speak the truth, & if he says this is the brother of the man in Lipani, that should settle it." Nursu was called & he said "I remember him & I recognize him. He is the brother." Six years ago, probably no man in that region was more unreliable than this same Nursu.

"I overheard some Hindus talking one day of this remarkable characteristic of the Christians. They spoke of Tukaram & one said "Tukaram won't lie. He wouldn't lie to save his life". T. is the deacon of the Watwad church & has hitherto done much evangelistic work. But he told me in conversation that this year he had been kept at home more than usual. Yet he added "My mind is not satisfied unless I have spoken to some one each day of Christ, either in the town or in the field or somewhere. The Patil of Watwad gave us a piece of land this year on which to build a church, & on this ground are seven large stones that are worshipped every year & these gods go with the land. I told the Patil we could use them in building the walls, & as many more as he would give. The following incident came to me in a letter while we were out. I had sent B.—to see about the work on a school house we were building. At first it seemed impossible to do anything. But said B. "I prayed & asked the Lord to help me, & in about an hour & a half or two hours the answer came. I made arrangements for the bricks at a very reasonable rate, & also for the other work". Kusabai wife of K. spoke with the utmost confidence that God heard their prayers. They seem to take every thing to God. One of their neighbors has a very fiery temper, & in his fits of anger uses abusive speech. At such times we heard that K. was accustomed to go & pray with him. The tongue in this land is often "a fire, a world of iniquity." Kundalik of Bansal said his mother was deeply interested in the truth, & assented to everything, but she does not yet give up her vile speech, & hence he could not regard her as having turned to the Lord. However after laboring several days at Bansal, this mother & a younger brother & a sister-in-law, decided to confess Christ. They declared their determination at two public meetings. But at the time appointed for the baptism, the mother did not appear. & on making inquiry she said she should wait till her husband came with her. The others were baptized & she remained in her house. About midnight that night, I heard Kundalik singing a mournful strain, making up the words as he went along. He was mourning for his mother very much as I have heard a woman mourn just after the death of her husband. Unbeknown to him however two of the Christians were laboring with his father & mother. They talked & prayed with them till the day began to dawn, & then they both decided to confess Christ together. We had a special meeting in the morning & they were baptized. But I had a long talk with them, in regard to the new life they must now lead. I spoke freely to the wife about her sins of the tongue; that she must now desist from the abusive speech she had so long indulged in. The husband, half in pleasantry, spoke of all he had had to endure, & then in the same vein I told them of a remedy that would be effectual for the time being at least. I said "When you are tempted to indulge in vile language just take a mouthful of water, & hold it there for an hour, & see what the effect will be". They both laughed heartily & the thought of the remedy will perhaps be helpful to them. They seemed very happy as the rite of baptism was administered to them.

"At Dontpur. our little girls were invited to dinner at the house of Yemaji. His mother is a gentle sweet-tempered woman of nearly 70 years. & she has often reminded us of certain~~ly~~ saintly women at home that we have known. Our Alice reported that while Yemaji's mother was helping to prepare the dinner, she heard her saying softly to herself, over & over "Lord Jesus, My Lord Jesus." It is in such trusting loving hearts, that Christ's promise is fulfilled, "Peace I leave with you."

As we started for home we spent one night in Watwad & many came to say good bye at our leaving. Ten or twelve came from other villages. At parting as usual we knelt down with them upon the ground & commended them all to God closing with the Lords prayer in which all joined, & then the benediction. We drove away amid touching expressions of affection from these humble disciples, who we doubt not are dear to the Master. — The number of baptisms in this region is likely to be larger this year than for many previous years. And I am thankful to say that several from the higher castes are now asking for baptism at Sholapur.

With kindest Christian love

Very Truly Yours

C. Harding

Sholapur, Mar. 10/87.
Rec'd Apr. 11.

Your very acceptable letter of Jan 31st reached me this week. I had felt nearly as much anxiety about it as Paul had before the answer came to his 1st letter to the Corinthians.

Sholapur Mar. 23rd 1887.

My dear Dr. Clark

I thank you for your letter of Feb. 17th The view you take of my references to the influences of the Adversary are entirely correct. It was only in a general way that I referred to this. It was farthest from my thoughts to intimate that Bro. Hume had been unduly influenced by this agency — as if he had been in any sense under the guidance of Satan. But it does seem like one of Satan's tricks, when the battle was going so entirely against him, to suggest a new hope for the heathen & thus plunge some of our best christians into a theological wrangle & so for the time, effectually hinder~~ing~~ their prayers & labors for the conversion of the world.

I have a letter from Bro. Gates today in which he says that Bro. Hume is morbid & we had evidence of this in what he himself wrote to ~~us~~ one member of the mission not long ago. The best remedy for this is for him to

Sholapur, Mar. 15/87.

hasten out here & take up his work again. I fear his mother shares in his morbid feelings, if she is not in some measure the cause of them. It may be news to you, but before the Andover speech, Bro. Hume's best friends here understood definitely that he was not expecting to return to India until this Spring. It may be as well for you not to mention this if you did not know it before, but I hope the dear Mother will not think it necessary to advise a longer delay.

Bro. Hume has not yet written me in answer to my letter, & I think it will be safer for me to wait until he does write & then I can answer him frankly & fully. It did not once occur to me that my letter could be so interpreted, & I am extremely sorry for the pain that this thought must have given him, and considering the sharp things that have been said & written about him at home, it is not strange perhaps that he should put such a construction ~~the interpretation~~ on my letter. I only hope he will speedily return & take up his former work, & we shall thus be able to show him our appreciation of his labors, & our confidence in him. Still.

We returned from our touring today. The hot weather has commenced & it was at some risk that we staid out so long. On the whole we have never before seen in one season so much that was encouraging.

Last week I baptized a man named Kondirām of the Márāthā caste, 16 miles west of Sholapur. He is the eldest son of a distinguished family & a man of considerable education & influence. One peculiarity of this caste is, their wives never appear before strangers. Kondirām's wife never visited her nearest neighbors. It was not stranger therefore, having lived this secluded life, & knowing almost nothing of the outside world, ~~that~~ she felt when her husband had broken caste & adopted another religion, - that this was her day of doom. She wept the whole night after the baptism & we felt great sympathy for her. ~~&~~ Mrs. Harding saw her several times & was able to comfort her somewhat.

It was really very touching when Mrs. H. was at last compelled to ~~leave~~ & return to Sholapur. to have this woman take hold of her repeatedly & beg her to remain longer. Very likely she had never before had so much personal kindness & sympathy shown her. Since returning home Mrs. Harding has written her a Marathi letter, doubtless the first letter she ever received. She of course cannot read. but she has two remarkably bright boys ~~& they~~ who will read the letter for her. — A good many ~~other~~ high caste men in that village & in several other villages are interest in the truth; but whether the day of their redemption is near at hand or not we cannot say. It will however surely come.

Very truly Yours
C. Harding.

P.S. On the whole I think I had better write R. A. H. briefly at once, saying that you had written me that such a construction had been put upon my letter. & I will tell him how entirely foreign this was from my thought. & to prevent any misapprehension I will enclose it in this. & I shall be very thankful if you will kindly read it. & forward it to him.

Sholapur, Mar. 23/87,
Rec'd Apr. 25.

Sholapur Apr. 28. 1887.

My dear Dr. Clark

I have come down from Panchgani for a few days to attend to some business here. — & I have just written a few thoughts which I enclose & which possibly may help us & you. But you at the Missionary Rooms had better decide what use if any, should be made of the paper. It may do for the "Congregationalist", or if shown to missionary candidates who are in the "intermediate state" it may possibly help them. — But I shall not mind if no use is made of it. or if in using it with or without my name you strike out any part of it. — Henry Fairbank told me last week that his friend Morse had had thoughts of coming to this mission & Noies too we used to see often in Amherst & it was in consideration of such men as these that I was impelled to write. I have no time to copy the paper & if it goes to the printers I hope they won't feel insulted by the writing on both sides. We are all pretty well. & our Mission meeting begins on the 4th prox. With kindest remembrance to all your co-laborers

Very truly yours
C. Harding.

Sholapur, Apr. 28, /87,
Rec'd May 31.

Apr. 28/85.
May 31.

the New Theology brings but small comfort to us.

But if by any means we are led to accept the theory how can it possibly give us any new incentives to present effort? Will it not rather to some extent dampen the ardor of Christians at home & of missionaries abroad.

Practically in this part of India the New Theology can give us no advantage in preaching to the heathen. I have never, in a long experience, met with any indications of anxiety among the Hindûs as to the fate of their ancestors. When we preach of Christ as the only Savior, the one name given under heaven, the objection is raised, sometimes to impugn

Should the New Departure in Theology Keep men from Mission Service?

The fact that it does this is a sore trial to those already in the field. I can well understand how our brethren in Japan, seeing their golden opportunity passing away, should cry out "Send us any & every man who seems fitted for the work & who is willing to come". And the news that any who seemed likely to come to India, are turned aside, is giving us here ~~here~~ "great heaviness & continual sorrow". It is all very well for our good Secretary to exhort us to go on with our work & not be disturbed & made anxious

Gods justice, & sometimes
as a charge against us.
"Why have you not told us
before". & "must we conclude that

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the discussions going on at
home. So far as this
movement hinders reinforce-
ments we cannot help be-
ing anxious. If there is
too much caution with the
Prudential Committee, or un-
due sensitiveness on the
part of missionary candidates
so that men are kept back from
the work we cannot but
feel it keenly. Besides, if
there is any thing really val-
uable in the new Theology we
ought to know it. If it is
likely to bring any new
comfort or incentive to our-
selves, if it will add any
element of power to our
preaching, if it can in any
way profit the heathen
for whom we labor, then by
all means, let us accept

gratefully. Many a time the thought of these millions going on to eternal death comes to us as a crushing burden. Will the New Theology give us any relief? It certainly will if it can be shown to be true. But a matter of such vital importance should not rest on a peradventure. A new bridge over a bottomless chasm should be thoroughly tested before a train is allowed to pass over it. To most of us no proof of the doctrine has yet appeared. And while the whole drift of the Bible, Old Testament & New, seems to take for granted that a man's present conduct decides his future destiny,

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myself what answer it would
safest & best to give.
Christ is the only Savior & he
for all. If your ancestors

for myself what answer it would be safest & best to give. "Christ is the only Savior & he died for all. If your ancestors followed the light that God gave them & did as well as they could do, I believe they are saved through Christ If they lived in sin & rejected the light God gave them. I see no hope for them. yet in any case God could not treat them unjustly." It is said that this is a speculation as much as the doctrine of a second probation. But it is safer than that. And besides Paul's argument in Romans & what is said of Cornelius, have led good men in all ages to hope that some are thus saved. It is evident too, that many of the Old Testament saints

Gods justice, & sometimes as a charge against us, "Why have you not told us before". & "must we conclude that all our ancestors have perished." I think the common conscience here would readily admit that most men deserve to perish; but in this connection they very often mention certain of their Sadhus - holy men - who lived comparatively pure lives. & the idea is that they have gone to heaven by their own merits & did not need Christ, & the inference is "if other men lived as they did, they will also be saved, so there is no need of your Christ" I say therefore there are no difficulties or objections in the minds of the heathen ancestors, which would be obviated by the doctrine in question. But in case men were at all awakened to a sense of their guilt + danger, it is morally certain — with all the obstacles that confront them here — that the possibility of another probation would lead them to delay repentance.

As a matter of fact the heathen are guilty + responsible for not having the gospel before this. If all in India were willing + really desirous to know the truth, five years would probably not pass before all had heard of Christ. If

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knew very little about
Christ. Abraham believed
God + it was counted to him
for righteousness. I have seen

men had not loved darkness rather than light, the gospel might have been preached to every creature in the first Century. Not long ago a man struggling against the truth said to me bitterly, ~~"they~~ "If this is so why have you not told us before", & I replied that for 20 years I had earnestly & loving pressed this message upon them, & still they rejected it, and he made no reply.

But the question as to the fate of those who in this life, never heard of Christ, is sometimes asked in good faith, by speculative minds; & many years ago I decided

Some of you [illegible] who have heard the call "Come over & help us." Is it really best for you to stay away from this blessed work because a few good men, in their efforts to solve great problems that the Bible does not solve, have guessed that there is to be a probation after death: Until these good men give us some tangible proof that the doctrine is true & that it can be taught with safety anywhere out of a Theological Seminary — until that time comes, surely this shadowy theory should not prevent your becoming a missionary to the heathen. You have all that any missionary of the Board has had for 75 years. You have all the truth that Christ knew very little about Christ. Abraham believed God & it was counted to him for righteousness. I have seen some men who appeared loyal to God & their consciencies, who knew very little about Christ. They had "turned from dumb idols unto the living God," — Old Testament saints I have often called them. I would not intimate that there is evidence that many are thus saved. I think the number in this land is very small. But there is reason to believe that some, in humble submission to God, though ignorant of Christ are met at the point of submission, by his converting grace.

Then very often, following this hypothesis I have appealed you know that this or that is wrong. How did you know it? God has taught you. & he is thus teaching men all over the world. The voice within you, drawing you away from sin is his voice. You know you ought to have turned to God long ago. You have motives enough, & you are guilty for your neglect of God's teachings. But now I bring to you an additional motive that you did not know before. You always knew that God was Good. & that he loved you. but you did not know how much he loved you. 'God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son'. This is the new motive I bring to you". There is, as far as I line of thought. It quickens men's Consciences & seems to accord with their own experience. Whereas the other view would probably make men more secure in sin, & lead them to defer repentence.

Forty years ago as I was leaving my Pastor's study after a prayer meeting, he handed me a tract entitled "The harvest perishing for want of laborers" This solemn thought led me ultimately to India. Many precious sheaves have been garnered since that day, but still it is true, The harvest is perishing for want of laborers. And now. I am sure it cannot be out of place. if I say a word to

Sholapur, Apr. 28, 187,

Rec'd May 31.

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taught & all that Paul preached, and this system of doctrine has proved itself amply sufficient to save the world. Year by year it becomes more & more evident that the old gospel is just what is needed. And since there is little probability that we can ever know certainly in this life that the new doctrine is true, had we not better, all things considered, leave the ~~subject~~ matter until we enter on the future life. If ultimately it proves to be true it may be a practical subject for us there, — though it can hardly be regarded as such here.

C. Harding.

Sholapur
Apr. 28. 1887

Sholapur Sep. 22nd 1887.

My dear Dr. Clark

Your favor of Augt. 8th came duly to hand & I am thankful that you are letting the matter, of which you wrote, drop where it now is.

You are kept informed I presume of passing events here. Miss Sarah Hume sailed for America on the 11th inst. & Dr. Fairbank sailed, or was to sail, on the 20th inst. Miss Katie Fairbank was with us two months before Mr. R. A. Hume arrived. He reached Bombay on the 28th of Augt. & came directly here. The wedding was in Nagar the 7th of Sep. Nearly all the mission were present & it was altogether a very pleasant occasion. Mr & Mrs. Hume have been away for a season but return to Nagar, we suppose, to-day. We had letters from them this morning, written in the best of spirits. They are evidently very happy, & we all hope that many years of useful service are before them. Dear Katie has developed very much mentally & spiritually since she came to India & it was mutually very pleasant to have her with us before her marriage.

We are all very well & have constantly much to encourage us in our work. I presume the Lord is dealing in greater kindness with us, because we are laboring single handed, & he sees that we cannot bear much. Every now & then he surprizes us with some special mercy. — The accessions to our churches will be much larger this year than they were last.

We shall remember you in prayer the first week in October, as you meet in Springfield. My own sympathies & beliefs coincide very strongly with the present policy of the Board, & I do not see how we can depart from this policy with any safety. — I am much impressed with the effect of these speculations as seen in England at the present time.

Mrs. Harding unites with me in kindest Christian regards.

Very truly yours

C. Harding.

Rec'd. Dec 6 87

Sholapur Nov. 10. 1887.

My dear Dr. Clark

At our recent meeting the mission recommended a special appropriation for the relief of Mr. E. S. Hume; and Mr. Abbott wrote you in reference to the ~~indebtedness~~ over expenditure of Mr. Hume. But I find on coming home that the first item Rs 300. for special medical attendance in 1885 should not have been included in the sum total. ~~But I find on coming home that the first item Rs 300. for special medical attendance in 1885. should not have been included in the sum total.~~ — In our Octr. meeting 1885. Mr. Hume spoke of extra expenses for medical attendance & was authorized to write you. asking for a special grant. He did write & asked for Rs 300. supposing apparently that that sum would be needed before Dec 31st. above his appropriations. As no answer came to his letter before the close of the year. & as the mission had approved of his asking relief he charged in his account Rs 203.4. above his appropriations & Mr. Gates the Treasurer allowed this sum putting it under the head of expenses not under appropriations; So that for 1885 Mr. Hume charged in all Rs 349. 2. + Rs 203. 4. = Rs 552. 6. for Medical attendance & medicines. He had I presume forgotten this charge at the close of that year. or possibly he did not know it had been allowed; for his account came in very late & had to be changed a good deal as he had overrun his appropriations in nearly every department. But the sum Rs 203. 4 – apparently all that he had expended in excess of his appropriations – was allowed for 1885 & this Rs 300. should not now have been brought into the account. And I am sure if Mr. E. S. Hume had known & remembered all the facts, he would not have asked again for this Rs 300. As I was not Treasurer in 1885 & as the accounts of that year were not by me at Nagar at our meeting, this irregularity escaped notice. But as it did escape notice it seems proper that I should inform you as I have also written to Mr. E. S. Hume about it. I remain ever

Most Truly Yrs

C. Harding

I have been several times interrupted in writing this, & hence these mistakes.

Rev. C. Harding,
Sholapur, Nov. 18, 1887.
Rec'd Dec. 13.

Sholapur Nov 17. 1887.

My dear Dr. Clark:

I wrote you one week ago in regard to Mr. E. S. Hume's ~~in regard to~~ extra charge for medical attendance in 1885. I had written to him the previous week, stating in substance what I wrote you: and as he made no reply, & as it seemed impossible that he could have expended Rs 852, for medical attendance that year, it seemed certain that a mistake had been made. But Mr. Hume writes this week, that he did expend, owing to sickness in his family & in the school, all that was charged, over & above what he asked from home; so that in some way, for themselves & for the school, he seems to have expended the Rs 552 charged in his account, & the Rs 300 which he asked as a special grant.

I cannot understand how it is necessary to expend so much for medical attendance there. There are always christian physicians in Bombay, who for the works' sake are quite willing to attend mission families, without charge. I remember three or four Doctors of high standing who voluntarily made this offer to us during the last 8 or 10 years of our residence there; & though I offered to pay. I think no Doctor took a fee from us during those years. And as far as I know the English & Scotch Missionaries were attended in the same way.

Your note of Oct 8th reached me this week. We are hoping to see Mr. & Mrs. Gates back this year, & evidently they wish to come. but we infer that they were not fully decided about coming, up to Oct. 8th We are all well. With our kindest regards

Very Truly Yours
C. Harding.

[illegible]

Sholapur, Nov. 17, 1887.
Rec'd Dec. 19.

Sholapur Jany 30. 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark.

I have recd. your two letters of Dec. 13. & 24. I am very sorry you are thus troubled by these old arrears of Mr. E. S. Hume. & if possible we will ~~not~~ prevent the recurrence of such things again.

I have before me the rough draft of Mr. Abbotts letter to you written last Octr. on behalf of Mr. Hume & with this & the accounts of the Mission, I will state the facts, (as far as I know them) in regard to the items mentioned in Mr. Abbotts letter,

First. as to the Rs 300. asked for extra medical attendance. Mr. Hume charged that year in his regular account Rs 349.2.0 & under the head of "Expenses not under Appropriations the Treasurer has this item "Spent by E. S. Hume for medicines &c above allowances Rs 203.4.0" Making in all Rs 552.6. expended by him for medical attendance & medicines, & included in the Mission acct. for 1885.

Probably no other one in the mission knew that he had expended any more than this. He ought to have been frank with us, & told us just how much it had been necessary to expend. & if it had appeared necessary. the amount might have been included in the accounts of that year. But having had permission in Octr. to write you. for some relief. he had asked for Rs 300, & hoped it would come in that way. As I wrote you in my last. he says that he actually expended this sum in 1885. in addition to what had been included in the Mission account. (552.6.) I do not doubt his word, but I think a more careful man would have expended less.

In regard to the second item. Mr. Abbotts explanation is sufficient excepting in regard to the organ. Two organs, given to the Mission long ago (one for Bombay & one for Nagar) had become useless. And at one of our mission meetings it was asked if it would pay to repair them. I promised to write to Mason & Hamlin & did so.

They wrote me that it would not pay, & I reported this to the Mission. The E. S. Humes either forgot this or thought they knew better & so sent the organ home. I should think the obvious way out of the difficulty now would be to sell one of the organs.

In regard to the third item; The new drains & latrines were a necessity. Rs 725 had been asked & granted for this & other work in the Compound. Mr. Hume first proposed to sell the old latraine (privy) & have it taken away & to use the proceeds in constructing the drains &c. This was approved by the Mission. Afterwards Mr. Hume thought it would be better to remodelle the building so that it could be used for a class room. My recollection is that this was not approved by the Mission at first, but afterwards it was proposed with other matters in a Circular. I voted for completing the drains & latrines at once, but for leaving the other work until funds were obtained for it. This circular was mislaid. & the mission did not see it again. & I do not know how the others voted. But the work went on. Of the Rs 480 asked for, under the third head, Rs ~~225~~ 250 were expended in re~~do~~modeling the old privy. (~~or about that~~). & the balance ~~Rs 255~~, of the 480 = Rs 230. in completing the drains & iron latrines.

~~These two sums I give from memory.~~

I hope what I have written will not affect your good opinion of Mr. & Mrs. Hume expressed at the close of your letter, and I am sure it will not change your opinion as to the cause of some of their troubles. And you will infer also that we as well as you, sometimes have difficulty in getting at bottom facts, in regards to Mr. Hume's expenses.

Mr. & Mrs. Gates reached Bombay Jan'y 15. & came here that same week. They are all well. & we are most thankful to have them back again. We are leaving this week for another long tour.

Ever most truly yours
C. Harding.

Sholapur, Jan. 30, 1888.
Rec'd Mar. 5.

Jun p 232

Sholapur March 15. 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark

We have just returned from an ordination service at Watwad. The Pastor, Yakob Raghoba, graduated two years ago at our Theological Seminary & has already spent a part of several years among this people. The Christians are well united in him, & he enters upon his work ~~with~~ earnestly & hopefully. In giving his Christian experience before the ordination, he stated that it was only near the close of his first year in the Seminary, that he became a truly converted man. Watwad is about 65 miles North East of Sholapur, in a Native State, the Moogalai - or the kingdom of Hyderabad. The work began there 14 years ago. The first converts showed a simple faith & a steadfastness, that was somewhat remarkable; & these characteristics have increased rather than diminished, in the more recent converts.

From the first there has been much indigenous work in this region. Andrew has found Simon & Philip has brought Nathaniel. until now there are over 90 Communicants & nearly 70 baptized Children & these are living in 15 different villages. Nearly all keep the Sabbath & meet to-gether for worship Some have for years been accustomed to walk from 3 to 5 miles & back ~~ever~~ every Sabbath in order to attend divine service. From the more remote villages they come only occasionally to Vatwad. But they have a simple service by themselves of reading singing & prayer. A good many adults have learned to read though they have never been to school. On a recent Sunday one woman came 12 miles to the service & one man walked not less than 25 miles, & they were both over 60 years old. The man said with a beaming face, it was good to meet with christians again, he had been so long among Satan's people"!

We generally spend a month or two touring in this region. The journey is hard, for the roads are often bad, but the work is a spiritual refreshment to us, for the fruits of the Spirit ~~abound~~ are seen on every hand.

I wrote you one year ago about Nursu of Lifani, formerly a thief, but now trusted more than any other man of his village. Another incident illustrating his remarkable character has just come to light. His changed life had so impressed two young men of the village that there were serious fears that they would become Christians, & the leading men of the town decided that Nursu must either give up his christianity or leave the place. As village watchman he receives each evening, as compensation, an amount of bread & other food & also a certain portion of grain in time of harvest. At ~~the~~ a general meeting he was summoned, & told that they had determined to dispense with his services. They would give him no more bread at night & they did not want him longer as watchman. But he did not seem to be at all disturbed & replied that they could do what they chose; in fact he would thank them for whatever they did. But they said, "What will you do? How will you live? Will you not complain to your Missionary or appeal to the Government?" "No," he replied, "I shall do neither. I shall tell my God about it & wait & see what he will do for me. He knows what I need & will in some way provide for me. But if the worst comes & I have nothing to eat, I will just turn my face towards heaven & deliver up my soul to God. But I shall not give up my religion." After such a declaration it was not very strange that the villagers finally decided that he might retain his work.

We returned only yesterday from our touring but the hot weather is upon us & it is hardly safe to be out. With very kind regards

Most truly Yours C. Harding.

Sholapur, March 15, '88

Rec'd Apr. 23.

Mahableshwar Apr. 11. 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark:

I wrote you recently of the ordination of Yakob at Watwad in the Mogalai. This week he writes me of the beginnings of his work there. He says "We have two services on Sunday & we have decided to have the Lord's Supper once in two months, & the Concert on the 1st Monday of each month. Last Monday at Paduli we had our first meeting & it was a very interesting occasion. The brethren spoke of their Christian experience in the best manner possible, & many gained a new impulse. Several decided to give up the use of tobacco, - chewing & smoking, - & the money ordinarily spent in that way they would hereafter put into the Contribution ~~box~~ plate. Narsu said he had some to-bacco on hand, which he should sell & give the proceeds to the Lord. Kundalik ~~handed~~ gave up to me his snuff with the box, & said that he had determined to be more earnest hereafter in the Lord's service, & it seemed as if many brethren formed new resolutions that day.

Sholapur, March 15, '88

One joyful thing happened on that occasion. Dasarata decided to become a Christian & he is to be baptized next Sunday. Pray for him & for his wife". This man has been an enquirer for six years past but has been kept back by his wife. Pastor Yakob also speaks of several others who are likely to join the church soon. How very natural this is. Increased earnestness & self-denial among God's people, followed by new interest & new conversions among those without.

I was very much impressed by that article in the Herald three months ago, on Tithe giving. It was the most forcible presentation of the subject to my own mind that I have ever seen, & it has already been helpful to us among our churches.

I have made the above quotation from Pastor Yakob's letter, thinking that possibly some of the "wise & prudent" ones at home might be instructed by what the Lord has revealed to these "babes" in the Mogalai regarding tobacco.—

Ever Very Truly Yours
C. Harding.

Mahableshwar, April 11 - 1888
Rec'd May 14

Mahableshwar Apr. 18th 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark:

Your letter of March 10th about Mr. E. S. Hume's indebtedness, reached me to-day. One discrepancy in the different accounts, arises, evidently, from an inaccurate statement in Mr. Hume's letter to you of January 18th 1887. After the two sums 480. & 476. had been granted to Mr. Hume, I asked him what these sums were for, i.e. what part of his indebtedness they cancelled. He replied that the Rs 480. was for what he failed to get from Mr. Abbott for schools, & the 476 was made up thus—

For Lalitpur	200.
For repairs of Organ	185
For pictures for childs paper	85
Total	Rs 470.

Mr. Hume said he did not know why you made this 476 instead of 470.

It is evident that in writing you Jany 18th 1887, he allowed himself to put the whole sum (470) under the head of printing, instead of mentioning the three items. —

There were no receipts for the native paper, which went to cancel any part of the 470 as you had surmised.

As to the rest, if you take Mr. Abbotts letter of October 27, 1887 & my letter of January 30th 1888, you will have I think a sufficiently accurate statement of this whole matter.

What you say about the irregularity of selling mission property & using the proceeds in repairs without the sanction of the Prudential Committee is pretty well understood by us now; & I presume you will not have occasion again to complain of us in this regard. Indeed if you knew all the facts in the present case, you would not think us very much out of the way.

According to our account Dec 31st, Mr. Hume was not in debt to the Mission, but I have reason to believe he was in debt to others, to the extent of perhaps Rs 1,000. ~~rupees~~. So that if the Committee can sanction another grant of Rs 774. - the balance of the 1730 asked for, in Mr. Abbotts letter - it will be a great help to him.

though I do not think he has a very good claim to this; and I am sorry to add, that there is very little hope that he will keep clear of similar troubles in the future. I have urged him more than once, to make a confident of some one in the mission in regard to his finances, but he does not do this. — There is I think, on the part of all of us, a disposition to help the work in Bombay & to rejoice in all the good that is being done there, yet there is a growing feeling that we are expending more in that city, than ought to be spent, considering the importance of the work there, & in the Deccan. We shall I presume discuss this subject at our next meeting. —

Very truly yours

C. Harding.

Mahableshwar, Apr. 18/88,

Rec'd May 19.

Mr. E. S. Hume's debt

Sholapur June 11. 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark

1. Before making our Estimates last month. for 1889. we had preliminary conversations as to certain special expenses. And I presented, to the Mission the necessity of enlarging our native Pastor's house in Sholapur. It was agreed that we ask Rs. 300 for this object, & that it be included in our regular Estimates. But in some way, I know not how, this item was left out of the Estimates altogether.

Dr. Bissell advises me to write directly to you about it.- The Pastor's house was built rather cheaply, about 15 years ago. It is badly ventilated & inconveniently small for the present pastor's family. & every year his children suffer a good deal from sickness.- I hope therefore Rs. 300. may be granted in our appropriations for 1889. for repairing & enlarging the Pastor's house at Sholapur.- or if you are able to make a special grant for this purpose this year we will begin the work immediately after the rains. & have it done before the close of December.

2. On the last day of our mission meeting we

Mahableshwar, Apr. 18/88,

learned that ~~a~~ portions of the walls in the Boy's Dormitory at Byculla were cracking & that the building would be unsafe during the rains unless something was done to it immediately, and a native Contractor had estimated the probable cost of repairs to be from one thousand to fifteen hundred rupees. The mission left the matter in the hands of the Trustees, to do what seemed necessary & best. — I wrote to an architect in Bombay asking him to prop up the building if possible — & make it secure till after the rains; & to make an estimate of the probable cost of repairs. — His estimate has just come & it amounts to Rs 559. With the approval of the two other Trustees I now ask a special grant, to meet this estimated cost of repairs, of the Boys' Dormitory at Byculla, Bombay. — — I shall have to pay about Rs 60. for propping up the building. — and the rest of the work may remain I presume, with safety, till the beginning of next year. if necessary. — We regret very much, that we are obliged to ask a special grant for this unlooked for expense.

V. Truly Yours C. Harding.

Sholapur, June 11-1888
Rec'd July 10 P.E.

Sholapur June 25. 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark

It has occurred to me that perhaps you would like to know what our medical catichist Prabhakar B. Keskar is doing at this station. An arrangement was made with him in 1885 by which he was to receive Rs 25. per month from the mission in 1886. & after that, each year Rs 5. less per month until 1891 when he would receive nothing from the mission. It was understood that he would continue his Christian work as before; but financially he would gradually become independent of the mission. He was receiving about Rs 50 per month when this arrangement was made, but the first year after, he made Rs 75 per month & last year a little more than Rs 86. per month. From the first we have made a charge for medicines from those who received treatment at the Dispensary but nothing is there charged for medical advice. If however visits are made to native houses, a charge of one or two rupees is made. Mr. Keskar is a Brahmin Convert of this place, & although there are two

Government Dispensaries & several private ones, he is having a large practice, & is probably more valuable to the mission work than he would be if wholly on mission pay. At first the natives were reluctant to pay for medicines, but gradually they became accustomed to it, & now many come to our Dispensary in preference to going where they get medicines gratis. Mr. Keskar is a valuable man to our Church, Especially as through him more than any other one, we have Communication with the higher classes of the City. His wife too is an intelligent Christian woman, & through her Mrs. Harding becomes acquainted with families which otherwise she would not have access to.

We have just set on foot a plan for medical work in ~~an~~ other districts. For several years I have been much impressed with the need of this help in the Moogalai. Fevers, Cholera & small pox, & many skin diseases, have it all their own way there. There is no vaccination in that region, & multitudes of Children die of small-pox. Just now it is an Epidemic there & in our Christian community three children have died, & one woman has been made blind, within a few months past. Well, in April last I consulted with Dr. Ballantine as to what could be done. & he said he had had it in mind to form a small medical class. to which he could give practical instruction, having them with him five or six months of the year, & letting them practice the rest of the year, He would thus have these students with him a part of four or five years & then they would be able to go on alone. We had one man here of high caste, Vishwas. (Faith) who had had some experience as a Compounder with Mr. Keskar. & who was willing to undertake this work, & one week ago he left for Rahuri to begin his preparation. I have great satisfaction in this undertaking, & have no doubt the people in the Watwad district will rejoice in it, & be greatly benefitted by it. Vishwas will be a preacher as well as a medical practitioner. & from the start I intend to. have him make a small charge for medicines given. & probably in a few years he will support himself by his practice.

I heard a month ago, that a son of Dr. W. W. Scudder of the Arcot Mission, was detained in America, because the Board of the Reformed Church had not funds to send him out; and so I wrote to Dr. Scudder asking him if it would be possible for his son to come & join the Ahmednagar College, & that he should write to his son if he thought favorably of it. Dr. Scudder replied, that the funds of their Board had so much increased, that they expected their son would soon join their mission. But he adds "I should have been proud to have had a son of mine, a member of your noble mission. I have for many years, looked upon it, as the best, & most reliable mission of the American Board, & I am following its history with ever increasing interest." This certainly is higher praise than we deserve & I am sure you will agree with me in this opinion. At the same time, it is true, that much earnest honest work is done at all our stations, & God is owning the work every year.

I should perhaps mention the donation of $30. ~~which~~ from a lady in California, Reported by Mr Ward Feb 8. for some special work in our Mission. At our recent meeting there was a unanimous vote, that the work in the Mogalai had the best claim upon this sum; & it is to go towards a house at Watwad, to be used for a School & for Sunday Services.

If you will give me the address of this friend I will write how the money has been used.

I have expended very little in that region for buildings hitherto, but the Christian Community is pretty large now, & we need at once a house for the pastor & two or three school houses (which will do also for meetings) Kindly remember this when you consider our "Preferred Contingent Estimates".

One word in reference to your letter to our Secretary rec^d the latter part of May. I think you intimated that if we had kept up our higher schools we very likely might have had Converts of a higher & more influential class. This certainly is very possible. But there are earnest & true men in the other missions who have kept on in this work of higher Education for the last 25 years, with no better results than we have had, to say the least.

Thirty or forty years ago, there were a few high

Caste men of mature minds, Converted in our mission, Ramkrishnapant Haripant Vishnupant & Shahu Daji & Sheik Daud & his brother Kassambhai. - The first two were Connected with our primary schools as teaches or inspectors & thus came under Christian influence, but the others as far as I know were not influenced at all by our schools. It is quite possible if we had had a good English school at Nagar for the last 25 years, the children of these men would have been better Educated & have taken a more prominent position in Society.

But the question ~~still remains~~ - why have there been so few Conversions among high caste men of mature minds, during the last 25 years? "One reason doubtless is the greater watchfulness of the Brahmins, & their greater efforts to keep away from the truth & to keep others ~~ago~~, away Formerly it seemed to them an impossibility that any of their number should embrace Christianity, But from occasional Conversions they see there is real danger, & many are determined to have nothing to do with the subject; & if they attend mission schools where the Bible is taught, there is a constant effort on their part, & on the part of others to neutralize the christian influences thrown around them. The Brahmins are now not only anxious for their own caste, but they often show great interest in the lower castes simply to keep them away from Christianity. I could give you many instances illustrating these assertions. Yet knowledge of the truth is increasing & more & more, men see the absurdity of caste & the folly of idolatry, & the break - perhaps on a large scale, - must come before long."

You will be receiving about this time our communications regarding the work in Bombay. One or two additional facts may help you. A missionary was sent out by the Established Church of Scotland last year for evangelistic work in Bombay. He & his wife came up & toured with us during the month of December. He told me the question had recently been up with their Committee at home, whether they should continue their Educational work in Bombay, & only by a small majority had they decided to continue it. So, about a year before, the local Secretary of the C. M. S. told me they had doubts about the propriety of continuing their Institution in Bombay. There is I think no doubt in regard to either of these Societies, if the question were up in regard to beginning a High School in Bombay, they would not favor it. And with these two, & also the Free Church College & High School – all well equipped, – the latter with five European Professors, & all willing & glad to receive our students, it seems a waste of funds to try to build up another High School, in such circumstances.

Your favors of May 2nd & 16th came duly to hand. We are all well & are just beginning our "rainy season work" at Sholapur. – lectures, services of song, & magic lantern exhibitions. In this way we are able to reach many of the higher classes in spite of their opposition to the truth. We have several interesting inquirers from the higher castes as well as the low castes. With kindest regards in which Mrs. Harding joins me

Truly Yours. C. Harding.

Sholapoor, June 25, 1888.
Rec'd July 25.

Sholapur Aug. 13. 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark

A telegram from Satara just received, tells us that dear Bro. Sibley passed to the heavenly home at noon today, Dr. & Mrs. Bissell are there & this will be a comfort to Mrs. Sibley. We had fondly hoped that the work in the Satara district, would be well looked after, until the Bruces could return again. — Bro. Sibley was earnestly devoted to Christ & his service, He loved the work, & with a humble dependence on God he looked forward to years of fruitful labor in that field. Thus a second time this year we have to speak of a mysterious providence, quenching bright hopes of usefulness in this dark land. Who will come to fill up our broken ranks! Surely we shall not have long to wait.

Very Truly Yrs

C. Harding.

Sholapur Aug. 13, '88.

Rec'd Sept. 11.

Bombay. Aug. 13. 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark.

A telegram sent by Dr. Bissell from Satara announced the death of Mr. Sibley this morning. We have been hoping against hope that he might recover, but he has rapidly failed and passed away this morning. His death will be a great loss to our mission circle, and to the cause of missions in W. India. We have known him ever since he came to India in 1878, and have learned more and more to love him. He was a most spiritually-minded, humble, unselfish and lovable man. He was also very practical and sensible, and so was admirably fitted to be a very useful missionary. Two years ago, when he joined our mission, we ~~very~~ earnestly desired either that he and Mrs. Sibley might go to Lalitpur, or come here to Bombay. They would have fitted into the work here admirably and we felt that they were persons to whom we would like to commit our plans and work, whenever it might seem best for us to go home on furlough. Other arrangements were deemed wise, and they seem to have been very happy at Satara. A mysterious Providence has overturned their plans for usefulness there. Mrs. Sibley has been wonderfully sustained throughout this sickness, and has shown a beautiful spirit, which has been an example to every one.

As we see one and another falling at his post, we wonder who are to take up the burdens which have thus been laid down. Surely there must be new men preparing themselves for the work, or we shall see important posts left quite unmanned. The situation is already serious.

In our extremity we are learning, first of all that our help "is not in man," and second we are learning the importance of our native agency. We must more and more depend upon them. Hence the importance of training up good men and women. First class agents are rare. It is in our power, however, to multiply them, if we are only willing to take the trouble, and to pay the cost.

A letter, which Miss Lyman, received from you today, speaks of your surprise that I should have undertaken the burden of the school at Parell for the first six months of this year. I think that but little explanation is needed to show that this is the way in which all our missionaries have to do under similar circumstances. The day school and consequent expense came into our hands last November, after our Oct. meeting. The opportunity was a rare one, but would have been lost, had we not taken it up then. We immediately wrote to you about it, and all the members of the mission. ~~of the mission~~ were fully informed about it. Several, who came here, went out to Parell and were shown everything. At the first opportunity, i.e. at the May Meeting, the matter was formally laid before the mission and endorsed, although as you now know, there was a strong feeling that no enlargement of any kind should be allowed. The mission endorsement did not include a grant for the first six months of the year mainly for two reasons. First, we seldom ask special grants for past work thus begun. Second. There was a feeling that the work is an interesting one and therefore donations specially for it are likely to come in, and so lessen the burden of expense thus far incurred. It was also felt that by the end of the year lapses of some kind may occur, and so the needed funds be found without asking the Board for another special grant. This was the opinion of the mission.

Thus it was true that the expenses for the school for the first half of the year had fallen upon me. I think that you will see that I have done nothing irregular, and have not been led by my feelings to act hastily.

With our united Christian regards -

Yours Sincerely - E. S. Hume.

Bombay, Aug. 13, '88.
Rec'd Sept. 11.

Sholapur Oct. 13. 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark

In accordance with your letter of Augt 22nd to our Secretary, Dr. Bissell & I have just been to Bombay, in order to study more carefully, with Mr. E. S. Hume, the questions referred to us regarding that Station. Before going to Bombay I spent two days in looking over the annual Accounts & Reports of the mission for some years past in order to test the statements made in the majority & minority letters sent you in May last. The minority letter seemed to show that our missionary force in Bombay for 1876. was about the same as in 1888; whereas for ordinary missionary work the force was very small in 1876. Mr. Park was almost wholly occupied in literary work. He was Editor of the Indian Evangelical Review. — Editor & manager of the Dnyanodaya & Secretary of the Bombay Tract Socy. The Sholapur district had been put in my charge near the close of the previous year, & I spent nearly the whole of 1876 laboring in the Deccan. Miss Ashley had come to Bombay on account of her health, & could do but little, & Miss Dr. Norris was opening up her medical work.

So also the Comparison of Expenses for the three years 1876 – 7 & 8. with 1886. 7 & 8. is entirely misleading. I have already spoken of 1876. In like manner strike out the larger part of Mr. Parks salary for 1877 & 8. & also deduct Rs 3,000 a year paid for rents during those years (whereas nothing is paid now) + add at least Rs 1800 for Miss Lyman & Miss Millard spent this year for conveyance + Pandits, which expense is not included in the estimates of this year & it will be seen that the expenses of the last three years (.86 – 7 – 8.) for ordinary missionary work were at least twice as much as for the first three (1876. 7 & 8)

In reference to the Comparison of the Byculla school with the girls school at Nagar. It would take many pages to explain all the facts involved; but I give one or two items, regarding the expenses of 1887. The cost for teachers in the

Byculla School was Rs 4.047. 8.0
In the Girls School at Nagar 1.424. 8.0

The probable cost for board & clothing for 55. scholars in the Bombay School is say — Rs. 3.300.
The actual cost in Nagar for 90 girls & clothing for 120. was — 2.125.
If we deduct what was paid by the *relatives* of the children in each school the comparison will I think be as favorable for Nagar as for Bombay. The Government grants in aid are about the same in both schools. And if we consider the value of the two schools to the mission, or as a missionary agency. the Nagar school has I think greatly the preeminence.

I I intended to make out full & accurate statistics of the Byculla School, but the school registers seem to have been mislaid & I did not see them. Mr. Hume however gave me the number on the Rolls for several years in Novr. of each year, and I have obtained the published Government Report of the school for these years. which gives the

the number on the Rolls March 31st for each year & also the average daily attendance. There are seven Standards in the Anglo. Vernacular School. The Standards I, II, III. are called the "Middle School". & the Students in Standards IV. V. VI. & VII. are in the "High School". Mr. Hume reports the number on the Rolls in November as follows

	High School	Middle School
for 1883	9.	14.
" 1884	18.	18.
" 1885	11	20.
" 1886	17.	24.
" 1887	19	33.

The Government Reports the number on the Rolls March 31. in each department. & also the daily average for the year. thus,—

	High School. 4 classes.	Middle School 3 classes.	Average in both 7 classes. for the year.
for 1883	0.	56.	43.
" 1884	0.	33.	25.
" 1885	14.	21.	31.
" 1886	14.	25.	33.
" 1887	17.	30.	35.

Comparing these two reports of the

School it is evident that the attendance is rather irregular & that the average daily attendance in the whole Anglo-Vernacular school is small.

The Vernacular Department (preparatory to the Anglo-Vernacular) has four Standards, & the numbers on the Rolls in Novr. for the five years (1883–1887) according to Mr. Hume's report are 60–55–65–67–59. There is also a class of little children preparing to enter the first standard which numbers probably from 10 to 20.

If Mr & Mrs. Hume could have commenced the school on a scale actually demanded by the numbers in our Bombay Church, & if for some years they had sent the very few scholars in the higher standards to the other Missionary Institutions in Bombay at the same time adding one standard after another as the classes became sufficiently large it would have been a natural development, & the plan would have commended itself to all. As it is, the school has been very expensive & it must continue so for some years

to come. It seems unwise to keep up
such a large establishment while ×
the classes are so very small. There
is nothing like it, as far as I know, in
any of the other missions. The present
pupils are from many places: but most
of them. (especially the older ones) are there
apparently, on account of the pecuniary
help they receive. And this will probably
be true for years to come. Parents
living in Bombay, & able to support their
children will frequently prefer to send
them to the larger Institutions. It
seems to me probable that most of the
pupils in the advanced classes, both ×
boys & girls will have to be supported.
And now it seems to me if Mr. & Mrs. Hume
could acquiesce in the plan, the most
sensible way would be, to make the "Middle ×
School" (i.e. up to the fourth anglo-vernacular
standard) as good as possible. Let the
boarders above these standards, remain
with them as at present, as boarders,
but send them as day scholars to the
other mission Institutions in Bombay.

When there are say 8 or 10. regular pupils that may be depended up. for the 4th Standard then add that to the school. & in like manner the 5th 6th & 7th as may be needed. This plan would probably diminish somewhat the number of boarders. in the higher standards, as the pressure to fill up these classes would be less. I should hope also that the present number of boarders would not be increased until there was a call for it. from the district occupied by our Bombay station. Thirty five girls in such a Boarding School. Especially as they grow older will bring an immense amount of labor & anxiety, although those in charge may do very little direct teaching. And the same in general may be said of the boys who are boarders. And besides a large sum of money must be raised by special appeals both here & at home. One prominent object of the Byculla School is apparently to draw in as many baptized children as possible & fit the boys for positions in secular work, that may be obtained for them in Bombay, & in this way build up the Church. This may seem to you not exactly the object of missions; yet considering the character of the people generally, & of the class from which most of our converts are drawn, it seems to me we must for a time do this work, especially in our larger stations. [Baptized children here whether in school or not, are generally brought into full communion with the church before they are 17 years old. They do not always give positive evidence of conversion, but they wish to join the church, & the church wishes to receive them.]

There is some force in what the Bombay brethren say about training their own agents & that agents from the Deccan will not suit that field. Yet it should be remembered, that hitherto our best workers in Bombay & vicinity have been those who were converted & trained in the Deccan. But the people in the Konkan out of Bombay, are somewhat different in their manner of life - food &c. from the people in the Deccan. And for this reason ~~there~~ will be difficulty in supplying that field with Christian agents, until indigenous workers are raised up. We shall all rejoice to see the work develop on these lines. The Konkan people however are generally regarded as inferior to the Deccan people both mentally & physically, and our work in the Konkan has not as yet resulted in any conversions, as far as I know.

Since our action in May I have heard from a half dozen different sources European & Native, that the Mission wished to close the Byculla School. I think every one in the Mission wishes to see the school sustained vigorously, & while in Bombay, my own mind was nearly made up, to favor the full course now. But since returning & reviewing all the facts, I think it would be much better to adopt the plan that I have suggested. The present

X Expense seems extravagant, while the

school is so small. And if so much is expended on a few there, why not establish similar schools ~~do it~~ in other places where pupils of equal or better promise, & in much larger numbers are found. Besides the effort to keep up the school, naturally leads our brethren there, to give more help than ought to be given for support of pupils, & also to interfere with the interests of our interior stations & to some extent with the other missions.

II. As to the relative number of missionaries to be stationed in Bombay.

The work there has greatly suffered, by frequent changes. It is safe to say that from 1857, to 1876, our whole force in Bombay did not average as much as one missionary & his wife. Twice during that time, ~~there being~~ we having no missionary in Bombay, I had charge of our work there, for a part of three years, while living & working alone at Sholapur. Our present force in Bombay is perhaps not larger than it ought to be, in order to sustain the work properly, so that when one leaves temporarily, the work need not suffer, as it has so often suffered in the past. Many years ago the question of giving up Bombay was proposed to us, & I wrote strongly against it. If however I had known then as much of Deccan work as I do now, I should probably have favored the proposition. Undoubtedly the work in the Deccan is much more fruitful & much less expensive than in Bombay, & it will probably be so for a long time. Yet we ought not now to retreat. It is proper that we should bear our share of the difficulty & expense; & we have been in Bombay too long & invested too much of precious life & love & zeal, to leave the place now, and it is true economy to sustain the work well.

It has been intimated that the Deccan Missionaries are jealous of the prosperity in Bombay. I am sure most of us have got far beyond this & I believe all of us have. We rejoice unfrequently at every degree of prosperity there; & even if the present laborers seem to exaggerate their relative success it does not trouble us. The present state of the Church, & especially their liberality, is very gratifying. But during the five years before Mr. Hume went there, the amount contributed in proportion to the number in the Church, was greater than the average contributions since then, & quite equal to the best years since then. That Church was generally regarded as the leading Church in Bombay in its liberality & Christian activity, long before Mr. Hume went there. The School has doubtless been influential in building up the Church, but I cannot see how, it has yet had much influence on the heathen & Mahomedan population, & from all that I can learn it seems to me likely that the agencies used from 1871 to 1875 were more influential on the outside population than any agencies now used. One hopeful branch of the work seems to have been quite in abeyance viz the visiting of native women at their houses. It would seem a great mistake if the ladies who have recently joined the mission, should be engrossed in school work, to the exclusion of such zenana visitations.

III. One word in regard to the feeling of the mission respecting the proportion of money spent in Bombay & in the Deccan. A definite sum is named by the Prudential Committee, each year, on the basis of which we are to make out our Estimates. The Mission has from time to time approved by a majority vote of a large outlay for the Byculla School. Some have from the first had misgivings about this & probably a majority have thought it unwise to expend so much. Some of us have expected this part of the Estimates would be cut down at home, & you have several times intimated that we might perhaps do this in order to relieve other parts of the mission, in cases where the sum total of our estimates was cut down. We have felt however, year by year, that if only the sum named as the basis of our estimates was given us, it was unwise to expend so much of it on the Byculla school, and notwithstanding all the complaints against the Mission, both public & private that have come from Bombay, we have believed all the time, that the work there was favored financially more than any other work in the Mission. Indeed our economy in many parts of the Deccan seems very strange in view of the free expenditure in Bombay. E.g. One school in Sholapur containing over 90 boys, they have been studying 4 vernacular standards. [They have 5 now.] They have three teachers, all graduates from the Normal School at Nagar. & we pay Rs 5.! per month rent for school house. The whole cost of the school is Rs 360. Deducting Govt. Grant & fees the cost is Rs 255. We have had a few Christian scholars there, but

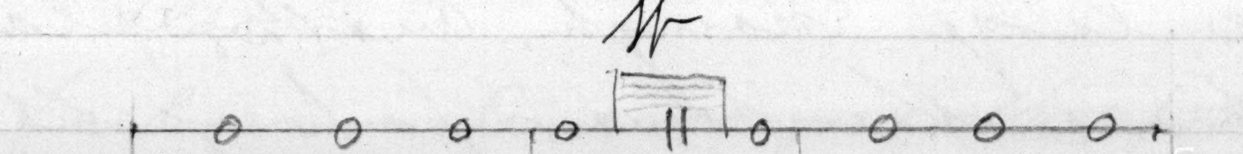
they are mostly high caste Hindus & Mahomedans. The Station school at Nagar has 28. pupils, studying in one standard - the 4th vernacular - though they have some instruction in English. Most of the boys expect to enter the Normal School the following year. they are the best boys from the villages# schools, & some of them are of much promise. The Cost of instruction in this school # was (1887) Rs 211. 8. as. & the whole cost of the school, including board, clothing books & incidentals & pay of teachers is Rs 663.
In the Byculla School there are at present 12 teachers. Eight of whom are receiving this year on the average Rs 40. per month or Rs 480. Each per year. This where the classes are small, makes the comparative cost of instruction very heavy. - This comparison is quite as striking if we extend it to School buildings. Our Station School house at Sholapur was built more than 20 years ago, wholly or nearly so. from local Contributions. It was rebuilt & enlarged

last year, without any help from America.

I have asked but once (if my memory is correct) for a grant for school buildings during the last 12 years, & that grant was not allowed: & yet our Christian Community has been steadily increasing in our district.

I must refer to one statement at the close of the minority letter. Of three girls recently sent from the Deccan to Bombay it is said. "They are fully paid for by their friends, & there is not one rupee of mission aid being granted them in Bombay, even though all three of them had always rec^d such aid in Nagar." I do not for a moment suppose there was any intention to mislead in this statement, yet the facts are these. The parents & relatives promised to pay Rs 2. per month, which would be about 1/3 the cost of board & clothing. The remainder comes through one of the Christians in Bombay & is collected I am told from benevolent people there. As to the Rs 2. promised by the parents they have not been paid promptly, & it will be very strange if it is ever all paid. As to the three girls having always recd. mission aid in Ahmednagar. One of these girls lived with her father in Ahmednagar & has never been supported. (as other girls whose parents live in Nagar & have regular service are not supported) Of the other two the parents paid one rupee a month for each & the mission paid another rupee. the cost of board being Rs 2. per month in Ahmednagar. & Rs 5. per month in Bombay. Thus while the parents & friends pay for their support twice as much as they paid in Nagar. this is supplemented by outside contributions of (Rs 3 X 3) nine rupees per month. Those who gave these contributions being included in the term "friends" in the statement made in the minority letter. [I noticed that these three girls are the only ones at present, among the girls who are said to pay full fees. i.e. Rs 5. per month.]

IV. Of course another bungalow is needed for our present missionary force in Bombay, & as soon as a suitable house or site for building can be obtained, I think we ought to own another residence in Bombay. The premises on Clare Road referred to in our letters last May, are well situated. The place is about ½ mile from our present bungalow. It is quiet & apparently healthy & not likely to be injured by other houses built near it. In these respects it is doubtful if we find so good a place anywhere else. And if the bungalow were of a suitable & convenient size I would not hesitate to recommend its purchase. It is however very large & the ceiling both below & above is very high. The front measurement from North to South, is about 85 feet, & from East & West about 65. ft. Both on the lower & upper floors, north, there are two large rooms & back of them places for bath rooms. In the centre running through the house from W to E. there is a large hall both above & below about 20X50 ft. Then on the South side there is the same space as on the North side. only a broad stair case runs up to the second story & this makes the middle rooms smaller on the South side. There is plenty of room in the house if properly arranged for three ordinary families. I give here a general plan of the house. roughly sketched in pencil.



The price of the house is Rs 52,000. & we might need to expend 4 or 5 thousand rupees in making alterations. On the whole it seems to me unwise to purchase this house. It will always be inconveniently large. & the style of the house will misrepresent the character of our work. We have already one very large house & to buy a bungalow still larger & more imposing will seem to many like extravagance & needless expense. Mr. Kittredge suggested that we might use the North half of the house for a chapel. With galleries it would be quite large enough. Another plan was to use the lower part of the North side for a girls dormitory; but for various reasons both these plans seemed inadvisable. There is a plot of ground near these premises & connected with them. large enough for a chapel & dormitory, but the owner of the property has not permission to build on the vacant ground. - and it is not likely that permission could be obtained. should we purchase the bungalow. There is a small piece of ground north of the bungalow. where the girls dormitory *might* be built~~[illegible]~~. but it would bring it inconveniently near the bungalow.

I have thus given you as candid an opinion as I am able to give of the situation in Bombay. It seemed to me on the whole as well for me to write a separate letter, stating my own views, & to write the letter now before going to the mission meeting. & the other members of the Committee will I presume write you also.

I feel an intense sympathy for those who are laboring in Bombay. I know very well what their difficulties are. But I cannot see how the work will suffer essentially if for the present another bungalow is rented for the accommodation of those who have recently joined the mission; & meanwhile I would be on the lookout for other premises - the best obtainable for a house - another dormitory & chapel.

Believe me ever

Most truly yours C. Harding.

[See over]

Ahmednagar Nov. 1. 1888.

P. S. — I showed the foregoing letter to Dr. Bissell immediately after coming here, & after that Mr. E. S. Hume had it until the day he left. I do not care to modify any statement in the letter, but a few things should be added.

1. The minority letter intimates that our Society is the only one likely to labor in the Konkan. The Free Church of Scotland has occupied three important stations there for a good many years, & has spent probably ten times more money there than we have. The C. M. S. occupies one important centre. The Methodist & S. P. G. have been there & are planning permanent work in the Konkan.

2. I am afraid the minority letter gives a wrong impression as to remarkable openings in & near Bombay — Nothing more hopeful is found there, than we find on every hand in the Deccan. Anglo-vernacular schools are very popular everywhere. — & there seems to be no great

opportunity now. which we have not had for 10 or 15 years past.

3. A wrong impression has evidently gone to you, regarding the willingness or unwillingness of the Mission to rent another bungalow in Bombay. There has been no time since the young ladies reached Bombay, when we would not have rented a second bungalow at once, if they or the Humes had wished it. We take it for granted that such expenses would be sanctioned at home. This has been well understood here.

4. The Bombay people are not quite so conscientious as they ought to be in regard to statistics. — I noticed the names of one lady in Connecticut (who has never seen India) & another in Boston, which are included among the regular members of the Bombay native church, & their contributions are reckoned as from the native church

5. Mr. E. S. Hume has intimated several times that he hoped to make the expenses of the Byculla school less.

The Cost of teachers was more the first half of this year than ever before. & I see no probability that the expense can be diminished.—

6. Mr. Gates will be our Treasurer next year. His work makes it more convenient for him, to attend to this, than for me. Hence I suggested his name & that of Mr. Abbott, with Dr. Bissell, to be the Com^tee on Bombay matters.— I hope these names will be approved by the Prudential Com^tee but until we hear from you about this, the present Com^tee Dr. Bissell E. S. Hume & myself will do what we can.

C. H.

Sholapur, Oct. 13, 1886.
Rec'd Dec. 3.

Com. on
[illegible] Bombay

Sholapur Nov. 6. 1888.

My dear Dr. Clark

At our recent meeting at Ahmednagar we voted (Res. 20) to ask for Rs 800. a special grant, for changes for health the next hot season. Apr & May 1889. & I was requested to write you about this. Formerly we did not all go to the Hills during the hot season. Up to 1870 it was rather the exception than the rule. But of late (although many of us would prefer to stay below, could we do it with safety) it has seemed best for all to go, unless some special work kept us on the plains. We have three houses at Mahableshwar & one at Panchgani. After filling these quite full, it leaves four families unprovided for. The E. S. Humes proposed to go to Khandala. a health station nearer Bombay, & hire a house there. & Dr. Ballantine would find another house at Mahableshwar. and Rs 300 extra were asked for each of these Brethren. = Rs 600. Mr. H. Fairbank & ourselves propose to go.

to the Palneys. & for this we each may need Rs 100. extra, making in all Rs. 800. It is quite possible that changes may occur before next March, so that we shall not need all this, but we shall be very thankful if the sum is granted, so that we may use it in case it is necessary. Mr & Mrs. Fairbank have suffered a good deal from malarial fever during the last three or four months. & are much reduced in strength, & this is the reason why a change to the Palneys was suggested for them. The Palneys furnish a more thorough change than any sanitarium we have here.

2. I was also requested to write you in regard to Sumantrao. (Rs 12) who is for this year employed as an evangelist. He has not given up his idea ~~for~~ of visiting America for the purpose of studying Theology, though we have said as much as it seemed best to say in order to dissuade him. He is willing & desirous however, of remaining with us for the first three months of next

year. & we hope he will continue on aft that. He doubtless will, unless he goes to Am ica. The Mission therefore desired to ask a special grant for Sumantrao of (85+10) Rs 95. per month for Jan. Feb. & March & also for the rest of the year if he remains with us.

3. I would like to ask permission t send our daughter - Alice, to Americ whenever a satisfactory opportunity occurs. She is 11 years old. & in excellent health. but for her sake we would like to have her go to America before long. I did not get a mission vote for this. chiefly because Alice woul worry about it, if she knew we were planning for it. But if a really good opportunity occurs for her going home. I think she would acquiesce in our decision for her. so that we could send her with safety.

I remain as ever

Most truly Yours

C. Harding.

Rev. Charles Harding.

Sholapur, Nov. 6, 1888.

Rec'd Dec. 10.

✓ P.C.

Rev. Charles Harding.

5

Sholapur Nov. 8. 1888

My dear Dr. Clark.

I sent you a long letter from Ahmednagar last week. After mak- the Copy that I sent, there remained too little time to add all that I had in mind.

1. I feel sure that neither ~~the~~ mission or you at home would have sanctioned the outlay for the Byculla School, had the facts from the first, regarding the expense & the number in attendance been known. Mr. Hume at first adopted various expedients to make the expense seem less than it really was. viz putting two of the female teachers under the head of Bible Women, &c.

2. I see no probability that the High School for some years to come, can be kept up with even its present numbers. excepting as pupils are taken from our interior stations or from other missions: & then it will be generally because more pecuniary aid is given there. Three

of the present boarders there. are from the family of one of Mr. Hume's teachers in Bombay. The teacher receives from the mission (according to our rule there) one rupee & a half for each child. ~~&~~ If the teacher lives near the school, his children should according to our custom board at home. If he lives far away he can send his children to the Central station. but, at least in such cases, what the mission allows for each child is deducted from the pay of the teacher. to help pay for the child's board. In this case in Bombay however the $1\frac{1}{2} \times 3 = 4\frac{1}{2}$ Rs. for the children are paid to the father. & he gives nothing towards their support or instruction. Mr. Hume's excuse was that the mother was an inefficient woman & the father was badly in debt. The father has been a teacher in the mission more than 20 years. — Very likely, the fear that some of these children might go to other schools. has also influenced Mr. Hume in taking this course.

3. The Minority letter spoke of that

school as "one of the best in India", in regard to its facilities for instruction. This is a very remarkable statement! I suppose the two Scotch & the C.M.S. Institutions in Bombay, must be far superior to the Byculla School in this respect. They have a superior staff of teachers & they are better paid, & they have the advantage of larger classes & brighter pupils. Besides, the C.M.S. Institution has two European instructors & the other two have considerable instruction from trained European teachers.

The influences in the C.M.S. school are very good. Several of our young men have been educated there, without at all detatching them from us. Sumantrao. is one of these & his younger brother was there for several years. The Free Church Institution is perhaps as good.

4. The Expense of a high School. Efficiently conducted in Bombay ought to be more than we are giving there. I do not think it can be less.

5. There is a High School for girls in

Bombay, under "The Indian Female Normal School & Instruction Society. It is admirably conducted. There are about 120 scholars — about 30 native Christians 50 or 60 Eurasians & some Hindus, Mahomedans & Parsis. It is thoroughly Christian, & strange to say the school is self ~~sapp~~ supporting (including rent of house Rs100 per month) excepting the pay of the trained lady teacher from England. The few girls connected with our mission there who are capable of going on through the higher standards might easily be sent as day scholars or boarders, to this school for the present.

6. Yet notwithstanding all this, I am not sure, but the Byculla School had better to ~~kept~~ on as at present.

In view of the strong feelings expressed by those in charge, that the school should not be in any way altered or curtailed; & to avoid the friction & misunderstandings that are sure to arise both here & at home if a change is made. it may be best to let it go on at least for the present. You at home must decide this. in view of all that you have heard. & we will try to bear the Consequences, with you, as best we can.

I have sometimes wished that we Could send you a moral, spiritual ~~&~~ intellectual photograph of each one of us. So that you Could judge better of what we write to you. Yet who but the Infinite One Could look on such pictures with safety & ~~im~~ impartiality!

I remain as always

Most truly Yours

C. Harding.

Sholapur, Nov. 8, 1888,

Rec'd Dec. 10.

Sholapur Jan 14. 1889.

My dear Dr. Clark

I wish to say a word in regard to the preferred Contingents which I asked for this year. I asked for Rs 400 for new buildings & Rs 360. for new teachers The latter sum will do for the teachers. but I ought to have Rs 1,200 for new buildings. I must not neglect longer the Christians in the Mogalai. We ordained a pastor there last March & he is doing well. There are three schools there at present. Two of them have no buildings & the pastor has no suitable house to live in The school is kept under a tree at Watwad. & the service on Sunday is held in the same place, & has been for ten years We have had as many as 70 Christians there at the service on Communion Sunday I have commenced a house there which will do for the school & the Sunday service The mission voted for this, the $30. that came the early part of last year from Calafornia. & this is the only sum that has ever been appropriated by the mission for buildings in this region. That building in addition to the $30. will require about Rs 150. more. Then for a pastors house I need Rs 250. & for two other school houses & teachers houses say Rs 800. that is Rs 1200 for buildings in the Mogalai.

Then there is a village six miles east of Sholapur where we have had some work & some fruit for the last 20 years. Two excellent pastors have come from that village. A new interest has sprung up there recently & a half dozen young men are likely to become Christians. I ought to have spent a few hundred rupees there for buildings 12 years ago. but did not. & it would be true economy to spend now Rs 400 for a school house & teachers house. there. The Government are giving me an excellent site for these buildings. I can get nothing from the people at Kumbhari towards these buildings. but the people in the Mogalai have promised Rs 108. towards the buildings there. & I may get two or three hundred rupees from English friends here. I wonder I asked so little in the preferred Contingent Estimates, for new buildings. I asked for only Rs 400. & I hope this will be granted soon & if you can make it ten or twelve hundred. instead of 400. I shall be very thankful. It seems to me places of this kind have a much stronger claim upon us than places where as yet there is little or no interest in the truth & where hitherto there have been no conversions. I am not a good beggar but I cannot help making this plea for our present urgent needs. — I write in haste for I am just starting on a tour.

I remain ever truly yours

C. Harding.

Sholapur, Jan. 14, 1889,
Rec'd Feb. 18.

✓

Need of buildings

Sholapur January 22. 1889.

My dear Dr. Clark

Your favor of Dec 11th reached me one week ago. I thank you for your kindness to my Julia in having her with you over the Sabbath. & for your kind words regarding her.

I am sorry I did not make myself clearly understood in what I wrote you. I cannot just now find the copy of my letter of Nov 8th which you refer to, especially. But I designed that as a supplement to what I had written before, & my definite object in both letters was to give you a more complete & more correct idea of the questions before us, regarding our work in Bombay. I am greatly at a loss to know what you mean by saying that I "condemn the establishment of a school for girls in Bombay." But I do not wish to go into the subject matter again. I wrote what I sent you, only because it seemed to be a plain duty. I wrote briefly. & did not give facts in all cases to substantiate what I said. But if you wish for facts upon any question raised in my letter, I can give them. You complain of us because we have not acted with more decision in the past, & because we have not made a clearer representation of the situation in Bombay. Of course you know it is very difficult to write plainly upon a matter of this kind, especially as it involves some degree of censure on our fellow workers. But I am sure you must have had some intimations regarding these difficulties. Your own correspondence with Mr & Mrs. E. S. Hume must have suggested some things, that have been brought to light more clearly now. I remember when I went home nine years ago, one member of the mission told me that I ought to inform you as to our inability as a mission to control expenses in Bombay; & I tried to tell you one day when at your office, but you showed very plainly that you did not

wish to talk about it. & I did not much blame you, for it is in general an uncanny thing for one Missionary to speak of another thus. If one speaks or writes about such a matter it is very likely to be regarded as the result of personal feeling or prejudice. – I think however you have known that we regarded the
+ school as an Experiment, a very expensive experiment – but we were willing it should be tried if you were. When however last May, plans were proposed for a definite enlargement on the same lines, it seemed necessary to make a protest against it.

But I will not add more.

Dr. Fairbank has just spent a day with us. His health seems good now. We have been in tents for some weeks & are just starting to be gone another month. — I have been today with Mr. Gates & Mr R. A. Hume, to ordain another native pastor 40 miles West of Sholapur. Ever truly yrs

C. Harding.

Sholapur, Jan. 22, 1889,

Rec'd Feb. 25.

Pl. uj.

Sholapur Mar. 18. 1889.

My dear Dr. Clark

Enclosed I send you a paper from members of our church. The observance of the day & the drawing up of this paper was wholly their own idea. — I was making out statistics this week that will ultimately go to you, & I see that 40 persons were recd to the church in this district last year on profession of faith. But we have made a beginning, that is all. Two cases of interest have come to our knowledge this week, both indicating interest & a longing for something better. — One was a well educated Brahmin & I am reading with him Pres. Seelye's Lectures to Educated Young Men. The other was a Hindu woman whose life has been cursed by Hinduism & also by Western immorality. You have little idea how much there is that is crooked & gnarled & blighted in Hindu society. — All pretty well.

Ever truly yours

C. Harding.

- See over

Dr. Ballantine will write you of his plan to have his wife go to America for a few months to see her aged parents. Dear Alice will probably accompany Mrs. Ballantine.

Sholapur, Mar. 18, 1889,
Rec'd Apr. 23.

Kodaikanal Apr 20. 1889.

My dear Dr. Clark.

I send you herewith Copy of a circular, which has just gone the rounds of our Mission, in regard to the purchase of new school-premises, in Sholapur. I sincerely hope the Committee will be able to make this grant at once, & then we will push on the work & perhaps begin the school before the close of this year. We have had this plan in mind for several years & are quite ready for it now. No other school in the mission, has from its own district, so many Christian children of high caste, as we have at present in our station school at Sholapur.

I enclose on another sheet the translation of a letter recently published in a native paper "The Poona Vaibhav". At the close of last January while on a tour I baptized a young Brahmin, & soon after, the above paper referred to the baptism, in very bitter terms, & said it was probably because of the young man's poverty, that he had joined the Christians. A letter in reply to this notice soon appeared in the same paper. The writer gave his full name — "Gopal Vinayak Joshi". & he proves to be the husband of the late Anandibai Joshi, who studied medicine several years ago in Philadelphia. & died soon after returning to India Mr. Joshi was also in America for a time. & was very favorably impressed by what he saw there.

We came here to Kodaikanal with Mr. & Mrs. Henry Fairbank ten days ago. It is much cooler here than at our Mahableshwar. & the change is likely to do us great good. Our Alice was to sail from Bombay three days ago Apr. 17th in company with Mrs. W. O. Ballantine. Alice is for the present to have a home with Mr. & Mrs. John W. Ballantine in Ridgefield Conn.

As ever Very truly Yours

C. Harding.

Kindly stamp the inclosed letter & forward it.

Kodai Kanal, April 20, 1889.

Rec'd May 20.

Ack'd Oct. 17.

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Sholapur May 6th 1889.

My dear Young Friends.

I am delighted to learn that the young people at home are going to take up special work at various mission Stations in foreign lands; & I am glad that we can thus come into direct communication with you who are trying to help us.

The school that interests me most just now is at Kumbhari 6 miles East of Sholapur. Two excellent native pastors have come from that village, & several persons converted there are now in heaven. The last conversion was about two years ago. This young man, Satwa, was sorely persecuted, but he did not waver. He afterwards married, one of the older girls, in our girls' school at Ahmednagar, & his wife is now teaching a school there. About 8 little children come during the day, & six or eight young men in the evening. These young men work hard during the day, but study at night, sometimes until 11 o'clock; & then after reading & prayer by Satwa, they go to sleep. The best thing about this school is, that nearly all the young men are interested in the truth. Their relatives oppose them, sometimes coming to Satwa's house & compelling them to leave. Yet several of them have declared openly, that they are determined to follow Christ. I have just secured a place for a school house at Kumbhari, & I am very confident that money spent on that school, will be a good investment. I look for at least 60 fold & very likely a hundred. But we may have to wait a little for the full harvest. Satan is very persistent in his opposition & he finds a plenty to assist him there. The fear of the world keeps many back. There are four brothers in one family, all at least favorable to the truth. The youngest, about 17 yrs old, attends the night school, & he has told his family that he has determined to become a Christian. His older brother in order to keep up appearances, seemed in public very much offended at this, yet privately he told Satwa to be sure & not allow the interest of the younger brother to die away. I am quite confident that after a few years, there will be a good church in that village. Now I hope you will give $50. for this school the coming year, but whether you do this or not, I hope you will not forget to pray, that these young men may all have courage to follow Christ, & that their parents also may become Christians, And then when you get to heaven you may meet these converts from Kumbhari, as they come up one by one. I take it for granted dear Friends, that you are all walking in the narrow way; & that you who help us thus by your contributions & prayers; & we who are laboring in person among this people, will by & by meet in the home above. May the Lord bless you in giving, & us in preaching, & may he hear us all in our prayers, that his Kingdom may come speedily in all the Earth.

Ever yours in the love & service of Christ
C. Harding.

Sholapur, May 6, '89.

Filed June 26.

Kodaikanal May 13. 1889.

My dear Dr. Clark

I wrote you two weeks ago, inclosing the translation of a letter to a native paper of Mr. Joshi. As this correspondence was the result of a baptism at Sholapur. I thought it proper to write to Mr. Joshi. & did so. expressing my gratifycation at the stand he had taken. I also referred to what he must have seen in America. as to the power of Christianity & exhorted him to act up to his convictions. In answer to my letter he wrote me the following.

"Wardha C. P.
23rd Apr. 89."

"My dear Sir

Thanks for your favor of the 13th inst. I was absent in Raipur District: hence the delay in answering your letter. I am much obliged to you for writing a kind letter to a stranger, & hope you will drop me a line from time to time.

I was much pleased with the Editorial on my letter republished in the Dnyanodaya. I am convinced that there is no other religion that saves mankind as christianity does. I really wonder how long it takes to see & realize the truth. If man makes up his mind to do good to others he does not find support in Hindu Religion.

I shall be leaving here for Poona in a day or two. I have made up my mind to receive baptism at the hand of Revd James Taylor of Ahmednagar. Again thanking you for your kindness I remain

Yours sincerely
Gopal "Venayak Joshee".

P.S. My address. C/o Post Office Poona"

This letter was very satisfactory, except the fact that he was going to an exclusive S.P.G. Missionary for baptism. After a few days I wrote him again, & on the supposition that he preferred the Church of England forms of worship, I advised him to connect himself with the C.M.S. Missionaries, & thus he would be more in sympathy with all other christians. His reply came two days ago & I am sure you will be glad to see it. I give a verbatim copy of his letter.

"Nasik 6th May 89"

"My dear Mr. Harding.

"I am much obliged for your

kind advice. I became Christian for Christ's sake. I know no difference in Church. All christians are alike to me. I could as well dispense with watery baptism, as most of the Friends have. They believe in Jesus as their Savior, & yet don't submit to forms. But my case is different. If I don't take baptism my people would not know that I have become Christian. It is immaterial who baptized me. But I have an amend to make. I have not been an admirer of Christ & his disciples; I have spoken hard things against christianity and the missionaries in general. I have vilified them to the bitterest point possible. Mr. James Taylor was the Missionary alluded to in all my lectures in America against christianity. And is it not right for me to receive baptism at the hands of one whom I have vilified. I have had nothing to do with him for the last 23 years. We were cut asunder as it were, but when it occurred to me that I should confess Christ publicly, I thought I should ask Mr. Taylor to perform the ceremony. So I wrote to him. It may have been a surprise to him, as it would be to all who knew me, that I wrote to him to baptize me. I hope you will be satisfied with this explanation, and I mean to publish this.

Yours very truly
Gopal "Venayak Joshee".

This shows decision & manliness, with great humility, & is evidently the work of the Holy Spirit. I was not aware however that he gave such lectures in America. It was probably among those chiefly, who would sympathize with such views. But his reports here of what he saw in our Country, & the treatment he received there were very complimentary.

I remain as ever. Very truly Yours
C. Harding.

Kindly stamp & forward the enclosed.

Sholapur — May 13, 1882. —
Ack'd. Oct. 17.

Rev. Chas. Harding.

Kodikanal, May 24, '89.

Filed June 26.

Kodaikanal May 24. 1889.

My dear Brother

I send herewith the second letter that I promised, & hope it will be of some use, in increasing the funds.

I am so sorry the Prohibitory Amendment was lost! We have just heard of it. Well, "If at first you don't succeed" &c

We are all well, & hope soon to return to our work at Sholapur.

As ever yrs

C. Harding.

Translation of Mr. Joshis reply to the "Poona Waibhav."

"I saw some days ago in your excellent paper, an account of the Conversion of a Brahmin youth, & you assigned his poverty, as the reason for his becoming a Christian. I suppose you will acknowledge, according to your own testimony, that our people, especially the Brahmins, are led astray by the study of English. To get up in the morning, & not perform ablutions, to sit & talk a foreign language, to eat meat & drink liquor, to become a deist & revile the Hindu religion — I don't think you regard such as Hindus. I consider that they have all changed their religion, & I don't know in what category you would place those, who having given up their own religion, &, without embracing another, are living irreligious lives. Our children great & small, come into this irreligious society, & poverty is the cause of this. Then why should you dislike it, that one youth, has left this ungodly Company, & gone to another religion.—

The reason for my writing is, that I too, like this youth, desire speedily to change my religion, & go to the fold of the Christians. And the reason of this is, my people are becoming more & more irreligious day by day. I cannot live according to my religion, & I have no desire to; & even were there a desire, I have no confidence in my religion. I don't understand the Hindu religion, & I find no one who does understand it. Therefore it will be well, if some one will tell me before I become a Christian what the main doctrines of Hinduism are. There are four castes in the Hindu religion. This I do not assent to. All men are one. Keep up these distinctions at home if you wish. But I do not regard that as a divine religion, that allows the Brahmin to go into the house of God, & forbids the Mahar to go. All are born sinful. All except the infidels hold this opinion. Different religions have different methods of washing away sin. According to the Hindu religion, a man must spend his whole life in wearisome labors to get rid of sin, & after all he don't know in what state his future birth will find him. For this reason the Hindus have lost ambition, & are brought down to the dust. The method of washing away sin, in the Christian religion, is rational. It is not necessary to kill the body. There is no need of austerities. Bathing is for cleanliness. The way of eternal happiness is the same for all, & there is one worship for all. The Mahar is nowhere forbidden to read the Veda. Don't get angry, & don't give some idle answer to create a laugh. Now or at some future time (lit. to-day or to-morrow) this matter is to be investigated."

Translation Joshi's reply to the S
"Poona Vaibhav"

Rec'd from Rev. C. Harding
May 25, 1889

Ack'd Oct 17.

Sholapur June 24. 1889.

My dear Dr. Clark.

I have recd your favors of April 23rd & 27th & of May 6th. I do not feel at liberty to decline to act on the Bombay Committee though it is with extreme reluctance that I undertake the duty again. I hear today that your telegram reached Bombay on the 23rd inst. & we are to have a meeting of the Comtee this week.

We returned to Sholapur week before last after a very delightful rest on the Pulneys. We were thankful to know more intimately the workers in the Madura Mission. After leaving the Hill, we spent two days at Madura, one at Pasumalai & one at Dindagal. In one respect that mission has greatly the advantage of ours. Their work is more thoroughly organized & it is much more compact than ours. In fact their limited territory enables them to organize more thoroughly than we can do. It is somewhat difficult to compare the two missions. Their large number of adherents or nominal Christians, whole villages coming out & putting themselves under Christian instruction — this makes their work very different from ours; & besides, we have apparently to deal with a much more vigorous & high spirited race than they have there.

There seems to me one important difference in the two missions which I wish to emphasize in this letter. The amount for general work appropriated to these missions has been kept for some years, at about the same figure & you have apparently thought that the work would go on vigorously without any essential increase in expenditure. This is very likely true in most parts of the Madura field & also in some parts of the Ahmednagar District. But generally in our field & especially in the Sholapur & Satara Districts, there ought to be a steady increase in expenditure for a good many years to come. The thought is painful & oppressive to us, that we are doing so little in these large districts. Our occupation is hardly more than a pretense. As soon as we can raise up teachers & preachers from our own district (Sholapur) we ought to have at least five times as many native agents as we now have. & the work in its natural development demands this increase of expenditure. At the outset the natives will give very little towards the erection of buildings or the support of schools, & if we wait for this, we shall have neither suitable buildings or schools of much value. It is a question how far we should establish these school where there are no converts, & where there is no special interest. But where there is a nucleus of Christians & others are interested, it is plain that the work should be followed up. & it is only on these lines that I urge an increase of expenditure here.

In looking over my accounts for the last six months, I find that I have expended more than one quarter of our salary in general & special work in this district, above appropriations & I shall need & shall very likely expend in a similar way Rs500. more before the close of the year. Of course I shall not bring this into my account as so much due me. I have no right to do this. I only mention it that you may see what we are trying to do, & how important the work seems to us.

Believe me Ever truly Yours
C. Harding.

Sholapur, June 24. 1889.
Rec'd July 23.
Ack'd Oct 17.

Sholapur Nov. 7. 1889.

My dear Dr. Clark

You will expect a letter from me stating the reasons for my non-concurrence with Dr. Bissell & Mr. Abbott, in the purchase of the Care Road property in Bombay. My reasons briefly stated were—

1. The building does not provide, in addition to the dormitory, suitable accommodations for our present missionary force in Bombay.
2. Plans of changes & additions needed, & Estimates of costs had not been definitely made, so that we could tell only approximately what the cost would be.—
3. No site for a Chapel & pastor's house had been secured.

Our missionary force in Bombay is expected to be equal to two families & two single ladies. The Byculla house is not designed for the accommodation of two families, hence we were to provide in the new buildings for the ladies & for

Mr. Abbott & his sister - virtually for two more families. This at the outset was the understanding of us all. Both Dr. Bissell & Mr Abbott showed in their letters upon this subject that they expected we were to make provision for the two single ladies & another family. And we all hoped that the Clare Road house would be sufficient for this. And yet at the last, both Dr. Bissell & Mr. Abbott gave up this idea, & seemed to think that if the dormitory & one good sized family were accommodated in the house, it would meet the conditions of the Prudential Committee. Mr. Abbott thought that your correspondence with him, favored the idea of giving up the whole house for the dormitory & residence for the two ladies. yet I did not think we had a right to act upon this, as the original instructions of the Prudential Committee to us, had not been modified

As to the plans, & estimates of changes &c. I wrote Mr. Abbott just after the telegram came, about July 1st, urging him to have plans of changes, + additions needed, + Estimates of costs made at once, so that we might know whether the place would suffice for our purpose, + whether we had sufficient funds at our Command. The owner of the house meanwhile was urging us to close the bargain, but as we delayed, he repeatedly gave us the refusal of it for a limited time. And during these delays I wrote to Mr. Abbott at least three times more, urging that the preliminaries as to estimates, &c be settled + ready for us. Then after three months. (about the 1st of Oct.r) on the last day that we had the refusal of the house I went to Bombay, hoping that we might make the purchase, But on asking Mr. Abbott for the plans + Estimates, he said he had none, though he believed Mrs. Hume had made some, — that he had referred the matter to her, as she was the most interested in it, + knew best what was needed. However no plans were produced; & after seeing the owner of the house & getting his promise of another week's grace; we called upon an Engineer & told him in general what was wanted, & asked him to make plans & Estimates. I should say here, that while in Bombay this time, a proposal was made which neither Dr. Bissell or myself had heard of before, viz. of including the lower middle hall, in the dormitory. Both Dr. Bissell & I thought this unwise, for besides disfiguring the house it would leave no room for another family, but only suffice for the dormitory & the two ladies in charge. However notwithstanding our protest the plans were made to include the lower hall, in the dormitory. Afterwards the Bombay people agreed to give up this point & exclude the lower hall from the dormitory, but no further Estimates were made & it is still uncertain how much will be needed to complete the changes. It is uncertain too — indeed quite doubtful, after seeing the plans

of the engineer, whether, aside from the two ladies compartments, a suitable residence can be made there for another family. There is sufficient room in the house for all our needs. but it is so arranged that it cannot be properly utilized.
As for a site for the chapel, there is a lot north of the bungalow connected with it, but on which we are prohibited from building. But it is hoped that this prohibition may be removed. & if it is, we shall have an excellent place for the chapel. If it is not, there is no telling where or when we shall have a new chapel in Bombay.

The property is not yet purchased, & the owner is trying to impose some new conditions as to the sale, but I presume he will not stand out long.

I remain as ever Truly Yours
C. Harding.

Rev. C. Harding S

Sholapur, Nov. 7-1889

Rec'd Dec. 6

✓

my life.. It did me good to read in the Herald – "Our work is unspeakably precious". Am I helping it just a little? It is an unspeakably precious tho't to me" – Are not these words most comfort'g? O how we thank our Father for opening such delightful homes to our dear chil^n!

Surely we would wish to labor more earnestly & faithfully for the dear Master. Excuse my freedom in ~~making~~ giving you these extracts. I knew you would rejoice with us. And now good bye.

I have had only a few moments this after^n, hence this hasty note.

With much love for Mrs Clark & yourself from us both.

Yours very truly,

E. D. Harding.

Sholapur. March 22d. Thursday.

My dear Mrs. Clark. Mrs. E. D. Harding.

Rec'd Apr. 21. 5

All day I have been planning to write to you, but one thing after another has prevented. I have come now from ~~the~~ little school-house in our yard where we have been having a talk from our good native pastor, preparatory to the Communion which we are to have next Sabbath.

I too want to tell you of my work, as my husband has been doing somewhat of his. But it is almost mail-time, I find; I can tell you at least, how good it is, to get back to our work & how much we enjoy it. Is it not because dear ones at Home are praying for us? I have a Bible woman — a dear, good creature, who is a great comfort to me. She greatly enjoys going among the women & telling

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Rec'd Dec. 17

My dear Dr. Clark

Mrs. E. D. Harding

Thank you for

When ~~she~~ returning from her visits, I have seen her face beaming with joy as she has told me of some pleasant experience. She said awhile ago, "I found it hard to leave Nagar, & come here, but since then, I have learned that where God's work is going on, there we can be content". Her influence over the other C'ian women, is excellent, so that they voluntarily accompany her in her various visits - & this is partly due to Mrs Gates' teaching, for during our absence, she tried especially to bring before our women here, the privilege of working for Christ, without any remuneration.

I have just been sending some of our Bible-woman's (Vitabai's) journals to the Eng. Society who are supporting her. I gave them items of her work, that I thot would interest them. They Secretary wrote back gratefully saying the acc't was just what they

And now just a few words about
our children, Mary & Johnnie, in America.
We have such good reports from them
that our hearts are glad & thankful
all the time. The dear, older girls
too, Julia & Emily write, ~~rejoicing~~ & cheer us continually,
only we wish that our Julia could
be better & stronger - but the Lord
will help her & raise up friends for
her. She is just now under the
care of Dr. Field of Newton.
Miss Salisbury of Pittsfield Mass,
with whom our Mary & Lizzie Fairbanks
are, writes - "I am sure dear Mr & Mrs
Harding, that God is blessing me in
giving me these dear little girls. It is
good to have them - blessed to have
them with me". And Mrs Lyman of
Amherst Mass. with whom our Johnnie
is, writes, "I want to tell you again
how precious this dear boy is to me.
a God given trust, a blessing for which
I thank my Heavenly Father every day of

Mrs. C. L. Harding

Thank you for forwarding the enclosed note, & thus showing your kind interest in our little ones. The letter shows a kind spirit, certainly, but as I remember Miss Eliza Lyon, for I suppose it is the same one I knew at the Seminary in 56-57, she was too morbidly conscientious to allow any one to be comfortable with her.

Only the other day, I heard one of our oldest Holyoke teachers speak of her 'as most too conscientious to live', referring to her morbid state. I remember, some of the scholars shrank from her very much. She may have changed much since then, it is true, but my early impressions were so strong, I should have great hesitation in leaving chil^n with her.

I hope Miss Lyon will find opportunities
of doing good, even if it be not in
the particular way she speaks of, of
caring for miss'ry children. I feel
that the Lord has some~~thing~~ home in store for
our little ones somewhere, altho' the burden
of their hearts & their prayers is that
they might return to India with us.
They little know how hard it is for us
to leave them. Our Ruby's clear decision
& earnest desire to return with us, gladdens
our hearts greatly. It is already touching
other hearts. I think dear Katie will go
too, altho' she wishes for more light with
reference to her little sisters, but her sister
Anna will help her & the Lord will guide
them both & all of us. I have just
returned from a little trip to Williamstown
where we had a large gathering of ladies &
chil^n at the miss'ry meeting. It was very
interesting to see that spot, the starting point
of missions, & I enjoyed meeting good Dr. Hopkins
& his excellent wife, while there. The kindness of
the good ladies there touched my heart.
With kindest regards. Very truly Yrs. E. D. Ward

Harding Miss Julia

Sixth Finding

Mch. 31. 1885.

Dear Dr. Clark.-

This afternoon Miss Tyler brought me your letter of Mar. 28th in which you said that the Prudential Committee had voted a special grant of $100. in my behalf. I cannot tell you how thankful I am for this assistance, for my funds were so low that I felt that I must ask help from some source.

My illness has confined me to the house

for sometime, but I am thankful to say I am much better now, and hope in a few days to continue my duties at the Library.

My Physician has shown me every kindness and attention that I could wish, and I feel that I owe my speedy recovery to his skill. He knows my circumstances, but I cannot tell what his charges will be. I hope that he will feel that he can make a reduction in my case. As you say this is a delicate matter to arrange and I shall just have to for sometime, but I am thankful to say, I am much better now, and hope in a few days to continue my duties at the Library.

My Physician has shown me every kindness and attention that I could wish, and I feel that I owe my speedy recovery to his skill. He knows my circumstances, but I cannot tell what his charges will be. I hope that he will feel that he can make a reduction in my case. As you say this is a delicate matter to arrange, and I shall just leave to await the result. When I was unable to write Miss Tyler kindly offered to do so for me. But now that I am able I wish to thank you all most heartily for this special grant which you have so kindly made. Unless it is less trouble for you to send me the \$100. at one time, might I ask you for \$50. now and the rest later. Thanking you again for your great kindness in this matter I am

Yours most sincerely,

Julia Harding.

New York.

Mar. 31, 1885.

Address, "Columbia College Library."
New York.

Columbia College Library
12 March 1885.

Dear Dr Clark.

Last summer you asked Julia Harding about her financial affairs and very kindly inquired if she needed help. She was getting on very well then but as she is somewhat embarrassed just now, she wanted me to ask you if the Board could do something for her.

Last fall Julia Harding

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came to the city and has been working, since, in Columbia College Library.

She succeeded in getting on very well until about two weeks ago when she was taken ill. Of course she has been obliged to have a physician frequently and that, with the cost of medicines, has been a great expense as she earns nothing while she is ill. If it were possible I think she would be very glad of the amount missionary children receive yearly.

I have written this for her as she is not able at present to do it herself.

She ventures to ask this because of your kind inquiry last summer and would be grateful to have you tell her frankly in regard to it.

I hope you are all well at Roxbury! I often think of the pleasant glimpses I had of you at Wellesley and wish I might have more. Very sincerely yours

Mattie G. Tyler.

Julia's address is
Miss Harding
Columbia College Library
N. Y. (City.)

Julia Harding

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24 East 47th St.
19 Mar 1885.

Dear Dr Clark.

I shall be very glad to give you all the information I can about Miss Julia Harding.

She has a very small income but if she draws on her principal it will of course leave her nothing for coming years and as her health is so poor she dares not use all she has now. Two or three years ago when she had heavy expenses she did draw a small amount so that now she receives very little more than $100.00 yearly.

As to her friends she does not feel it possible to ask help from them as they have done so much for her in the past.

It is three years since Julia Harding's parents returned to India and much of that time she has been ill and under a Drs. care.

She has managed to

Julia

live with almost no pecuniary assistance and feeling better this year she tried to help herself by working in Columbia Library.

If she cannot have help she will be obliged to use her small principal to pay the bills which have accumulated, in a months' illness, or run into debt.

Of all missionary children I think Julia Harding does need this help and I should be very glad if it were possible for her to obtain it.

Very sincerely - Mattie G. Tyler

Julia Harding

Miss Harding

Dear Dr. Clark.—

June 16 1885

Will you kindly send me the balance of the sum granted to me last April? I expect to leave the city next month & take a vacation. But before I leave I wish to pay my debts.

If nothing happens I expect to return to my work in Sept.

My health is in a good condition now, but careful. I can pay my expenses very well usually, but this money which you have so kindly given me, has enabled me to pay these additional expenses.

I hope next year I will not need a physician, but be able to do some real work.

Thanking you again for your kindness.

"Columbia College Library." Very sincerely.
16 Je.'85. Julia Harding.